Chickasaw Times

Vol. XXXIX No. 10 | October 2004 | Ada, Oklahoma

Chickasaws cheer new Museum of the American Indian

Members of the Chickasaw Dance Troupe dance in the Native Nations Procession in Washington during opening ceremonies for the National Museum of the American Indian. The dance troupe also danced on the social dance stage later in the day. From left, Tim Harjo, Rhonda Harjo, Haskell Alexander, Condessa Morgan, Lee Frazier, Latisha Kilcrease, Jason Carpenter, Monette (Lynie) Richardson, Matthew Morgan and Joanna MacCollister.

WASHINGTON —Chickasaw songs and the sound of shell shakers mingled with a variety drums, bells and songs as the Chickasaw Nation Dance Troupe joined dozens of tribes from across the hemisphere in the procession that marked the beginning of Sept. 21 opening ceremonies for the National Museum of the American Indian.

More than 20,000 Native Americans in regalia ranging from ribbon shirts and deerskin leggings to a variety of feather headdresses, basket weave hats, beaded crowns and more proudly marched and danced their way along both sides of the National Mall to celebrate the event.

Situated on slightly more than four acres only two blocks from the U.S. Capitol, the NMAI houses artifacts, artwork, and other items drawn largely from the collection of George Gustav Heye. An investment banker, Heye accumulated more than one million objects from 1897 until his death in 1957. In addition to these objects, the museum houses extensive multimedia displays as well as rotating exhibits that help tell the story of the living cultures of Native Americans.

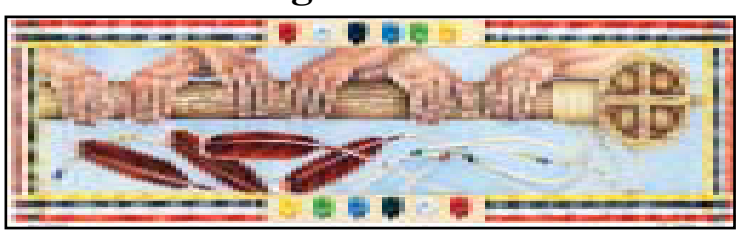
"This opening is the culmination of a dream our Native nations have shared for decades," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "Today we can celebrate the opening of this facility which honors the cul-

*See **NMAI,** page 29*

2004 - 2005 Royalty crowned

The newly-crowned 2004-05 Chickasaw Royalty are, from left, Little Miss Chickasaw Sesiley Robertson, Junior Chickasaw Princess Tesia Worcester and Chickasaw Princess Shelly Wall.

Annual Meeting and Festival artwork



Hina Falaa (Long Road) by Jeannie Barbour is the official artwork for this year's Annual Meeting and Festival.

Voter registration deadline Oct. 8

The U.S. presidential election is Tuesday, November 2, 2004. Tens of thousands of new voters have been registered across the country in advance of this important election. If you are not registered, or have not voted in a number of years and believe you may be purged from the voter rolls, you still have time to register.

"Voting is the single most important thing we can do as Americans," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "I am encouraging all eligible Chickasaws and others to be sure to register and vote in this important election."

Registration deadlines vary by state. In Oklahoma, the deadline to register and be eligible to vote in the upcoming presidential election is Friday, October 8.

Registering is very easy. To qualify to vote, you must simply be 18 years of age or older; be a U.S. citizen; and be a resident of the state in which you are registering.

A very simple voter registration application will be provided you. The applications are easy to complete. Applications are available at your county election board office, local tag agent, public library, U.S. post office and the state election board.

On the internet, you may download an application at www.elections.state.ok.us

The voter registration application asks for your name and address, your political affiliation (Democrat, Republican), your birth date, your driver's license number, and the last four digits of your Social Security number.

*See **Voter registration,** page 10b*

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September 2004 Resolution results

General Resolution Number 21-094

Concurrence with the Implementation of the FY 2004 Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grant Program and the Establishment of a Juvenile Justice Tribal Advisory Board to Address Juvenile Crime and Delinquency

Explanation: This resolution supports the establishment and mission of the Juvenile Justice Tribal Advisory Board and concurs with the implementation of the FY 2004 Tribal Juvenile Accountability and Discretionary Grant Program awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Program, U.S. Department of Justice. The Chickasaw Nation will create a Juvenile Justice Tribal Advisory Board that will meet on a regular basis for the purpose of developing a coordinated enforcement plan for reducing juvenile crime.

Requested by: Governor Bill Anoatubby

Presented by: Tim Colbert, Chair Court Development Ad Hoc Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Judy Goforth Parker, Wilson Seawright, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 21-092

Oil and Gas Lease in Coal County

(Tribal Tract - S.T. 17)

Explanation: This resolution approves an oil and gas lease in favor of Chesapeake Exploration Limited Partnership of $357.00 per acre for a total bonus of $42,840.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation shall receive $42,840.00, on property belonging to the Chickasaw Nation described as N/2 S/2 SW/4: N/2 SW/4 of Section 13, Township 1 North, Range 9 East, Coal County, Oklahoma, containing 120.00 acres, more or less, for a primary term of three (3) years with a $3.00 per acre annual rental for a total of $360.00, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive $360.00 per annum, and a royalty rate of 18.75%.

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Judy Goforth Parker, Wilson Seawright, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Permanent Resolution Number 21-025

Amendments to Title 2, Article I of the Chickasaw Nation Code of Laws

(Chickasaw Utility Authority)

Explanation: This resolution amends the section of the code dealing with the Chickasaw Tribal Utility. When the authority was created in the late 1980s, there was no tribal code of laws. Since that time, the authority's own bylaws have been codified, which is improper. This resolution clarifies some of the language of the sections which should be codified and removes the language of some sections which should be included in the authority's bylaws and not in the status.

Requested by: Governor Bill Anoatubby

Presented by: Steve Woods, Chairman Legislative Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Judy Goforth Parker, Wilson Seawright, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Permanent Resolution Number 21-026

Amendments to Title 2, Chapter 8 of the Chickasaw Nation

*See **Resolutions,** page 5*

Retreat focuses on peacemaking

Cheri Bellefeuille-Eldred
Supreme Court Chief Justice

Chukma! What an exciting and busy month we have had at the Judicial Department.

Justice Smith led a Peacemaking retreat for the Peacemakers on Sept. 8. We are thrilled with our Peacemakers and the wonderful work they are doing. We are all looking forward to the time our Peacemaking Court will be an option for working through disputes and at the same time reintroducing some Chickasaw tradition into our families.

September 9th we held a Bar Association Luncheon for the Bar Association members at the Elks Lodge in Ada. Governor Anoatubby and guest speakers, Professor Dennis Arrow and Steve Hager, Director of Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, made the luncheon a huge success. In addition to the great speakers and delicious food, Chickasaw Nation Bar Association officers were elected.

Judge David Raasch visited our courts September 13, 14, & 15. Judge Raasch is an independent auditor for tribal courts and performs the audits as a guide to measure compliance with federal grants. As well as compliance guidelines, Judge Raasch offers suggestions on ways to improve tribal court systems. The Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court and District Court received high marks on their court policies, procedures and the compliance with grant guidelines.

Justice Smith Judge Raasch, Wayne Joplin and Connie Tillery visited the Kingston Community Council meeting on September 14, 2004. What an enthusiastic and wonderful group of citizens!

Our San Antonio trip to the Community Council meeting was unexpectedly canceled due to some unforeseen circumstances. I would like to extend my personal apology once again to our San Antonio council members and we are looking forward to coming to San Antonio at a later date.

September 18, 2004 I left for Washington, D.C. with many other Chickasaws for the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian. I wish each and every one of you could have seen the Native Americans in the Native Nations Procession. It was breathtaking to see so many of our brothers and sisters marching and dancing proudly in their native dress. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian is honoring the Native American cultural traditions and achievements.

Our Houston Community Council trip is scheduled for September 28, 2004 and we are all looking forward to visiting with our Houston citizens.

The Chickasaw Nation District court had **35 NEW** cases filed in August to bring the total of new cases filed since January to **262**. The Chickasaw Nation District Court Advocates assisted **102** clients in August. This brings their total to **829** clients have had appointments with our advocates.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Festival.

Alexander wins run-off eleciton for Panola District

Beth Alexander

ADA, Okla. – The Chickasaw Nation Election Commission conducted a runoff election for Panola District seat one Sept. 21. Incumbent Beth Alexander received 308 votes or 56.51 percent and Ellen J. Flowers received 237 votes or 43.49 percent.

Ballots for the runoff election were mailed to qualified voters in the Panola District on Aug. 30.

Alexander will be sworn into office along with the winners of the primary election beginning at 1:30 p.m., Oct. 1, in the Chickasaw Nation Headquarters building conference room in Ada.

Elected officials to be sworn in include: Alexander; Pontotoc District, seat five, Mary Jo Green; Pickens District, seat three, Linda Briggs; Tishomingo District, seat two, Timothy K. Colbert and Supreme Court, seat one, Mark Holmes Colbert.

For more information, contact Rita Loder, election secretary, at (580) 310-6475 or (888) 661-0137.

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Bill Anoatubby
Governor

Jefferson Keel
Lt. Governor

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the *Chickasaw Times*. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 22nd of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

When you vote, you are shaping our country

By BILL ANOATUBBY
Governor
Chickasaw Nation

"Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Those 15 words, penned by Thomas Jefferson and included in the U.S. Constitution, represent the basis for our American system of voting. For each man and woman, there is one vote, which may be cast as each voter sees fit.

This amazing and precious right to vote is the foundation of our American democracy. It is what makes us such a unique and freedom-loving country. Every citizen over 18 years of age has an active say in how his or her country is run.

The story of voting in the United States is one of numerous twists and turns. When the founding fathers of this country first established the right to vote, they left the details of voting up to the individual states. This led to a number of unfair practices in the beginning, and generally only white men who owned property were consistently enfranchised to vote.

By 1860, most white men, regardless of property, could vote. However, minorities, including Native Americans, women, non-English speakers and others were still excluded. It would take many more decades before voting became truly fair in this country.

Some states, into the 1950s, continued to institute a "poll tax" which was often levied on minority voters in an attempt to restrict access to the ballot.

In 1993, the U.S. adopted the National Voter Act, also known as the "Motor Voter Law." This legislation simplified and standardized the voter registration process. Now, if you are at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen and have not been convicted of a felony, you have the right to vote!

Gov. Bill Anoatubby

States now allow citizens to register to vote by mail using a very simple form. You can even download the form on the internet, complete it and mail it to your state election board. In Oklahoma, the web site for this form is www.elections.state.ok.us

For Indians, gaining the right to vote took a long time. Many Indians could not even become U.S. citizens until 1924. Even then, many Indian voters faced obstacles to voting.

Now, registering and voting is simple and easy. The barriers are down and your participation is welcomed. But that does not mean that all, or even most, Americans exercise their right to vote. In general elections, such as the one upcoming on November 2, a turnout of 50 percent is considered good.

Your vote is so critically important. The Native vote in this country has become very important to candidates because Indian voters are very independent and often do not vote along party lines. Additionally, because the country is so evenly divided at this time in our history, a slice of voters can make a big difference. Native voters represent about one and one-half percent of active voters in the U.S. Candidates know that small percentage can make all the difference.

So, remember that you have in your hands an incredible amount of power. This precious right to vote has been won through the sacrifice of many Americans who have come before us. It is our duty as Americans, and as Chickasaws, to vote on November 2.

Each state is different, but deadlines are upcoming if you are not yet registered to vote. In Oklahoma, the deadline to register is October 8. Please call your local election board at your county courthouse today to register. It's simple, it's easy and your vote can make all the difference.

New facilities to open; tourism, entertainment business targeted

Chickasaw Nation business ribbon cutting and ground breaking ceremonies scheduled in the coming months will help put the tribe in an excellent position to capitalize on the state's $4 billion tourist industry.

Grand opening ceremonies are scheduled for early October for the new Microtel Inn and Suites and Breadbasket Buffet adjoining the Treasure Valley gaming facility in Davis, Okla.

October will also see the opening of a 60,000-square-foot Family Fun Center in Ada featuring lazer tag, bowling, skating rink and concession area.

In Marlow, Okla., the Chisholm Trail Casino and Cook Out Cafe are scheduled to open by November 1.

"It is only natural for us to expand our hospitality businesses," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "Travel and tourism is the third largest industry in Oklahoma and several current projects around the state are sure to spur further growth in tourism."

One such project is the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum in Oklahoma City.

Currently in Phase III of development, construction of the center to be located on 300 acres at the intersection of I-35 and I-40 is expected to be completed by late 2006.

Once complete, the center is expected to draw more than 350,000 new visitors each year.

"This is going to be a destination point," said Tommy Thompson, executive director of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority. "It's going to be the best thing for Oklahoma, as well as for the tribes.

"People from the national and international levels want to come to Oklahoma and see cowboys and Indians when they come to Oklahoma, especially the Indians. And when they come there's nothing here for them. So we want to be able to provide that for them and we'll be able to do that."

Another project that will be a major tourist attraction is the Chickasaw Cultural Center, which will be located on 129 acres near Sulphur, Okla. That facility, also tentatively scheduled for completion by the end of 2006, is expected to draw more than one million visitors annually.

In Tulsa, a 17-story bronze statue of a Native American warrior complete with an elevator to an observation area is also expected to be a major tourist draw.

One Chickasaw Nation business that has been drawing tourists from Texas for more than a year is also scheduled for expansion.

"There's no question that our Winstar facility just north of the Red River is attracting people into Oklahoma that have never before traveled here," said Neal McCaleb, former Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation and U.S. Interior Department Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, who now serves as a business consultant for the Chickasaw Nation. "You go down to that parking lot at Winstar and it's full of Texas license tags. People from the Dallas-Fort Worth area come in and spend money."

Expansion of the Winstar facility itself is scheduled for completion in December. The project, which will almost double the size of the facility, includes a new restaurant as well as a larger theater.

A Microtel Inn and Suites adjacent to that facility is also nearing completion and should open in early 2005.

Two more hotels, an RV park, golf course, bowling alley, Kids' Quest child care center and game arcade, and a first-run movie theatre are among future

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Free cookout at Tish Boys & Girls Club

The Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club of Tishomingo, Okla., invites youth ages 13 to 18 to come out to 1109 Branum Road the third Monday of each month for free a cook out, door prizes and fun.

A special area will be designated for skateboarding.

"Come out and enjoy the fun," said Audrey Davis, executive director of the program. "Bring your skateboards and pads and look for an evening of excitement and fun."

Participants must have a release signed by a parent or guardian to take part in skateboarding. Release forms may be picked up at the Chickasaw Nation Boys & Girls Club at 1 Murray Place on the Murray State College campus.

The club is hosting the events to make area students aware of a newly formed group catering to youth from 13 to 18. The club will hold similar events monthly.

For more information, contact Reggie Robbins at 371-0153 or Judy Knapp at 371-2774.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Youth Fall Retreat scheduled

Native American youth ages 12 to 17 are encouraged to attend the annual Chickasaw Nation Fall Retreat scheduled for October 22 through 24 at Camp WOW in Gerty, Okla.

Deadline to apply for the free retreat is Oct. 6.

The goal of the retreat is for youth to learn more about their culture and tribal government, to make a positive difference among young people, improve leadership skills and meet other youth.

The Fall Retreat will include a live Christian band, extreme glow in the dark dodge ball, mud Olympics, a hayride, fireworks, a cultural dance and much more.

For more information, call the youth services department at (580) 310-6620.

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Museum offers special connection with ancestors

Linda Briggs
Chairman
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Hello to all my fellow Chickasaw!

In all our lives there are special events, occasions that are memorable and forever when we think of those occasions we feel great emotion as we run back through the pictures we hold in our minds of those times.

Such a time, a truly memorable occasion, has just occurred for me. I attended the grand opening in Washington, D.C. of the Smithsonian's Native American Museum. The architecture itself is incredibly beautiful but the building was brought to life by the presence of all the Native Americans in attendance for the opening of the museum - approximately 17,000 of us. The parade was grandeur at its best as many, many tribes marched in their native dress. And the pride I felt as our own Chickasaw dancers performed is larger than words I know to express the emotions of it. Our own Lynie Richardson from the legislative staff is one of the dancers so we were even more elevated in our feelings.

The day was truly a gift from the Almighty - gentle breeze with brilliant sunshine! In the formal ceremonies the greetings from the President of the United States who was unable to attend were read by one of our own, Congressman Tom Cole. His mother Helen cole is in our Chickasaw Hall of Fame for the many contributions she made not just to us as Chickasaws but to all people. Congressman Cole expressed to me as we visited prior to the ceremony that the day would have been the highlight of his mother's life.

Inside the museum the spirits of our ancestors were largely present and could be felt as we viewed the incredible artistry they left us and the stories of the many tribes of our brother and sister Native Americans were told. As long as I live I will never forget the emotion I felt as I saw the Chickasaw flag projected upon the wall along with the flags of many other tribes. But somehow the Chickasaw flag was the first one shown. And another favorite area of the museum for me was the room with the story teller giving the legends of the stars. The room overhead was dark with all the stars above us and it was as if we were looking into heaven itself.

Never before in history and certainly probably not in most of our lifetimes, if ever, will most of the tribes of this continent come together as happened in Washington this week.

I am thankful for the experience. I wish for all of you that you might be able to visit the museum. It truly is a living work of art. God's blessings to

Colbert hosts open house at Tish clinic every first Wednesday

D. Scott Colbert
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Legislator Scott Colbert will have an open office for Legislature business at the Tishomingo Clinic between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month. Please make appointments at (580) 622-3218. You may also call on the first Wednesday of every month at (580) 421-3425.

Feel free to contact Colbert if you have any questions.

New diabetes grant at CNHS focused on prevention

Dr. Judy Goforth Parker
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

The Chickasaw Nation Health System (CNHS) has been a recipient of the Indian Health Service Special Diabetes Programs for Indians (SDPI) grant since its inception in 1998. The purpose for this grant was to improve the delivery of diabetes care to American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) to reduce the incidence of the debilitating complications associated with diabetes. If you have been a recipient of care through the diabetic clinic, you have to know that you have received some of the best care that is available for the treatment of diabetes.

The news I have now is great for all of us, because we are going to expand what we do in the CNHS and add our focus to the prevention of diabetes. Through a competitive grant application process, this year the Chickasaw Nation has been awarded a supplement to the SPDI grant. This competitive process afforded all tribes the privilege to apply for the new monies. More than 60 tribes applied for the grant that we were awarded, and approximately 30 were approved.

The CNHS Primary "Prevention of Diabetes Project" targets AI/AN throughout the Chickasaw Nation who do not have diabetes. This new program will consist of two components, community awareness and prevention (CAP), and intensive lifestyle intervention (ILI). The goal of the CAP is to provide the Chickasaw population, especially youth and young adults, with health promotion opportunities geared toward the prevention of diabetes. Developed with direct input from community members, these prevention activities will provide information on nutrition, physical activity and general health.

In the ILI component a thorough screening process will be used to identify individuals in the community with pre-diabetes, a condition that has its own health risks and is often a precursor to diabetes. Individuals identified with pre-diabetes will be provided a structured lifestyle and behavior change program, based on the successful Diabetes Prevention Program, designed to reduce diabetes risk factors and prevent progression to type 2 diabetes.

Administered through the CNHS, the grant award is for five years, including the first year planning phase. Primary oversight for the project activities will be the responsibility of the director of the CNHS Diabetes Care Center and the diabetes program staff. If you have the opportunity, please let the staff know how much you appreciate their efforts. This information will actually be used to help us identify what the best things that we can do to prevent diabetes. In the long run, we will be helping people everywhere.

If you do not live in or near the Chickasaw Nation, you can still do something to help prevent diabetes. Make sure that you live an active lifestyle. I personally walk to do some sort of cardiovascular exercise three to five times a week. Find out what your ideal body weight is and then if you are above that, try to lose at least a few pounds. If we will lose 10 percent of our excess weight, we are helping in the prevention of diabetes. Also, study a reliable source and find out what sort of foods you should be eating. If we work together, diabetes can be prevented. Let's work together to improve our lives. I look forward to your e-mails and phone calls. Have a great month in October, and get your walking shoes on. See you at the track.

Judy Goforth Parker
Legislator,
Pontotoc District, Seat 2

Language class

Joann Ellis is teaching language classes to workers in the Division of Heritage Preservation and others each Monday. From left are Jackie Davis, Tim Harjo, Eddie Postoak, Gingy Nail, Terri Haney and Ms. El-

CNHS collects $21m in third-party payments

Mary Jo Green
Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! September is the last month of the fiscal year and we are looking forward to beginning 2005. Health Administrator Bill Lance attended our committee meeting and gave us his usual comprehensive report. Governor Anoatubby also dropped by and we always enjoy seeing him.

The Imaging Center and emergency room renovation project is proceeding with the project and costs estimates to be submitted to the governor's office this month. The project will include provisions for CT scans, mammography, tele-radiology equipment, MRI and new fluoroscopy equipment.

The prescription refill center project is progressing and the floor plans have been completed. An architect is currently being sought for the project. The grand opening date for the Purcell Clinic is October 6 at 10 a.m. The electronic health record project is also proceeding along and the types of necessary equipment are being identified.

The Health System will have collected over $21,000,000 in third party payments by the time FY 2004 closes. That is a record in collections as is the $2,170,836 collected in August. Third party collections are important because they allow more funds to be spent on health care for our citizens and Native American neighbors. Congratulations and a hearty "thank you" are sent to the collections department.

The total number of hospitalizations at Carl Albert for August was 224 and six-month total was 1,308. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 14,972 for August and 84,768 for the last six months. Emergency Room visits were 1,012 in August and 6,051 in the last six months. The number of surgeries for August was 255 and 1,420 for the last six months. The Same-day Clinic saw 2,980 patients in August and 16,439 in the last six months.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,694 patients in August and 27,940 in the last six months. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,985 for August and 17,613 in the last six months. The Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,742 patients in August and 15,102 in the last six months. The Durant Clinic saw 2,515 patients in August and 15,161 in the last six months.

The total number of patients seen in the last six months for all clinics is 160,584. That number is staggering to me and I am so thankful that we are able to provide health care for so many citizens and Native Americans.

The Education Department reported that, for the Fall Semester, clothing grants, graduate scholarships, undergraduate scholarships, tribal supplemental grants and tribal grants have been awarded to approximately 800 Chickasaw students in 143 colleges and universities in 27 states. Of those students, 162 attend East Central, 50 attend Southeastern Oklahoma State, 108 attend the University of Oklahoma, 20 attend Murray State, 13 attend Seminole State and 7 attend USAO in Chickasha. Another 176 students attend colleges and universities outside of Oklahoma. Those numbers are up 15% from last year. Congratulations to all those students!!

For your information, my articles are now located on Chickasaw.net web site. As always, I invite any comments or questions you may have. Please contact me through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the web site. I look forward to speaking with you! May God bless our health care providers and also our Indian people that they may be in better health in the coming year. Thank you.

Resolutions, continued from page 2

Code
(Chickasaw Nation Code of Sales and Distribution)

Explanation: This resolution amends Title 2, Chapter 8 pertaining to the maintenance, updating and distributing the Chickasaw Nation Code.

Requested by: Linda Briggs, Chairperson

Presented by: Tim Colbert, Chairman Court Development Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert, Tim Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Judy Goforth Parker, Wilson Seawright, Steve Woods, Linda Briggs

Committee Reports

Historic Capitol - Ad Hoc Committee
September 13, 2004
Present: Melvin Burris, Judy Goforth Parker, Linda Briggs
Absent: Wanda Blackwood Scott, Scott Colbert

Education Committee
September 13, 2004
Present: Beth Alexander, Melvin Burris, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Donna Hartman, Linda Briggs
Absent: Wanda Blackwood Scott

Land Development Committee
September 7, 2004
Present: Judy Goforth Parker, Melvin Burris, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Linda Briggs
Absent: Scott Colbert, Steve Woods

Finance Committee
September 7, 2004
Present: Scott Colbert, Melvin Burris, Holly Easterling, Linda Briggs
Absent: Judy Goforth Parker, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods
September 13, 2004
Present: Scott Colbert, Melvin Burris, Holly Easterling, Judy Goforth Parker, Linda Briggs
Absent: Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

Court Development Ad Hoc Committee
September 13, 2004
Present: Scott Colbert, Judy Goforth Parker, Linda Briggs
Absent: Tim Colbert

Human Resources Committee
Present: Dean McManus, Melvin Burris, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Linda Briggs
Absent: Donna Hartman, Wilson Seawright

Legislative Committee
September 7, 2004
Present: Melvin Burris, Scott Colbert, Holly Easterling, Mary Jo Green, Dean McManus, Judy Goforth Parker, Wilson Seawright, Linda Briggs
Absent: Beth Alexander, Tim Colbert, Donna Hartman, Wanda Blackwood Scott, Steve Woods

2004-2005 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District

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2. Judy Parker
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3. Melvin Burris
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   (580) 436-3657
4. Dean McManus
   Route 2, Box 312
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 759-3407
5. Mary Jo Green
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   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 332-2394

Pickens District

Seat #

1. Wilson Seawright
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2. Donna Hartman
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3. Linda Briggs
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Seat #

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Panola District

Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
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   Achille, OK 74720
   (580) 283-3409

Shiloh Pipe replica presented to Chickasaw Nation

Shiloh National Military Park Superintendent Woody Harrell presents a replica of the Shiloh Pipe to Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. Left to right are, John O'Hear of the Cobb Institute at Mississippi State University, Governor Anoatubby, Brad Lieb (also of the Cobb Institute), Heritage Preservation administrator Kirk Perry, Mr. Harrell, Chickasaw hostorian Richard Green, Chickasaw Cultural Center director Sue Linder-Linsley, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel and tribal Cultural Resources director Eddie Postoak.

Shiloh National Military Park Superintendent Woody Harrell recently presented a replica of the famous Shiloh Pipe to Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby.

Unearthed in 1899, approximately five years after the Shiloh battlefield in Tennessee was designated as a national park, the Shiloh Pipe is a large stone pipe fashioned from red stone.

Carved in the shape of a kneeling man, the Shiloh Pipe was carved from a type of red stone found in Missouri.

The original Shiloh Pipe, valued in the millions of dollars, usually resides at the Tennessee River Museum in Savannah, Georgia. Currently, the artifact is on loan to the Field Museum in Chicago.

Recent scientific methods have confirmed the material used to make the Shiloh Pipe came from a clay quarry located in eastern Missouri near the Cahokia Mounds.

This finding, along with the discovery that a group of artisans from the Cahokia region made several similar pipes is very significant, according to Chickasaw Nation Division of Heritage Preservation administrator Kirk Perry.

"This establishes the trade and contact between people of the Cahokia Mounds near present day St. Louis and the people of the Shiloh Mounds along the west bank of the Tennessee River ," said Mr. Perry. "At Cahokia group of artisans made several similar pipes that were traded across the southeaset about 800 years ago. These pipes have been rediscovered at a site in Mississippi, at Etowah Mounds in Georgia and Spiro Mounds in Oklahoma.

"It is likely this (Shiloh) pipe once traveled from Cahokia down the Mississippi River, up the Ohio River and up the Tennessee River where it reached its final resting place at Shiloh Mounds."

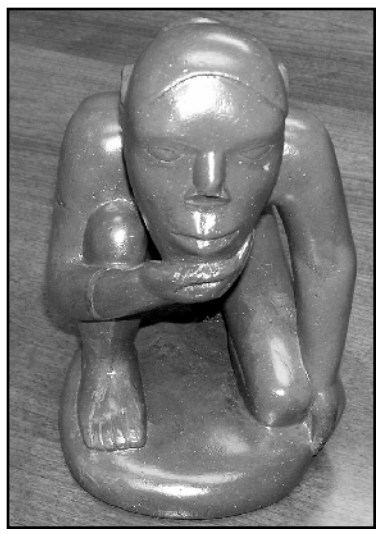
Archeologists are conducting excavations are currently under way on Shiloh Mound A, because it is threatened by streambank erosion.

These mounds, because the lie within the Shiloh National Military Park, are remarkably well preserved. Archaeologists expect to continue making important finds which will increase their knowledge of the mound builders, who lived in thea area more than 1,000 years ago.

Mr. Perry is working as a consultant on these excavations to ensure any funerary objects are repatriated.

Prior to excavation of the mounds, extensive preparation was made using ground penetrating radar to survey the contents of the mounds.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.



Community garden summer youth grow five tons of produce

Five tons and three ounces.

Those two impressive figures were revealed during the awards ceremony for tribal Summer Youth workers in the Community Garden Program.

Five tons was the weight of produce grown by the 25 workers in the program.

Three ounces was the difference in production between the first-place team and the team that finished second.

After enjoying great success last year, a few minor changes were made in an effort to improve the program this year.

One of those changes was to divide the workers into teams and provide an incentive for the team that produced the greatest crop from its raised beds.

"Governor Anoatubby had a great idea when he suggested introducing an element of entrepreneurship into the program," said Thalia Miller, director of the horticulture department. "They really worked hard to earn that production bonus."

Competition, however, did not cause friction between teams, according to Community Garden coordinator Ira Adams.

"It was really a friendly competition," said Mr. Adams. "All the kids became great friends regardless of what team they were on."

That camaraderie probably resulted from the structure of the program.

Participants worked in teams in the morning, while the entire group worked and played together in the afternoons.

Not only did the workers sell produce at the greenhouses and at farmers' markets they also participated in a number of activities, including swimming at Chickasaw National Recreation Area, learning Chickasaw language, making arts and crafts projects and others.

Instituted to give Summer Youth and adult participants hands-on training and education in crop management, soil conservation, landscaping and marketing, the garden program enjoyed such rapid growth that it led to the creation of the horticulture department.

Now in its third year of operation, several students have been with the program since its inception.

"You can really see a lot of growth in those students from year to year," said Mr. Adams, who said the workers not only develop new skills but become more mature and responsible each year.

Tisha Cully, who is in her second year in the Community Garden program, said the program has taught her a great deal.

"I have come out of my shyness. I have better people skills," said Ms. Cully. "I have opened up a whole lot more.

"It's a good thing to do. The garden is a good place to work. Pretty much any job you get working for the Chickasaw Nation you can improve yourself."

of hands on experience from preparing beds and caring for the crops to selling the produce to wholesale and retail customers. She has also learned about other possible careers through the job shadowing component of the program.

Classes on workplace etiquette, writing resumes, and interviewing skills are also part of the program.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Senior Citizens Gift Shop

100 S Chamber Loop

Southwest jewelry, ceramics, Chickasaw t-shirts, caps, shawls, keychains, dreamcatchers, car tags and other gift items

Open from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday

'Lazer Zone' Family Fun Center opens October 1

Southern Oklahoma residents will see family entertainment in a whole new light when the 60,000-square-foot Lazer Zone Family Fun Center in Ada opens October 1.

The Lazer Zone is a new facility developed and operated by Chickasaw Enterprises.

Shortly after patrons walk into the facility they take on a glow, quite literally, as clothing reacts to the ultraviolet light.

Lazer lights and fog machines add to the excitement in the 24 lane bowling area, where lanes, pins, shoes, balls and even the confetti pattern in the carpet glow in the blacklight.

Brightly colored panels above the pins maintain the festive atmosphere when bowling lanes are brightly illuminated by fluorescent tubes.

Fog machines, lazer lights and disco balls, make skating and rollerblading a breathtakingly new experience, as skaters roll along to the beat of tunes played by a disc jockey manning the state-of-the-art sound system. Spectator bleachers are also available for those needing to take a breather.

Lazer tag players will be able to "shoot it out" with sophisticated space-age style hardware in the innovative 4,000-square-foot lazer tag arena. Blacklights illuminate the arena, which is designed to look, sound and feel like a futuristic chemical storage facility.

Rounding out the experience for children and adults are 90 of the latest and most popular video and prize arcade games. Machines range from realistic rides on Harley-Davidson motorcycles to dodging dinosaurs in Jurassic Park.

Younger visitors will find plenty to do in the brightly lighted toddler play area. Everything from a playhouse to softly padded steps, slides and animal forms will provide hours of entertainment for even the most active toddler.

"We want this to be a place where the entire family, from young children to grandparents, can come out and have a great time," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "Before this, there was a limited variety of activities for youth in the Ada area.

"Now, with so many activities to choose from in one location, this will be a place where families can visit time after time and always have a new and exciting experience."

Patrons needing to rest and refuel can choose from hamburgers, pizzas, chicken strips, soft serve ice cream and other favorites at the large concession restaurant. Skaters will be able to skate up to the counter and choose their favorites from the snack bar in the skating rink.

"There is nothing that even comes close to the size and scope of this facility in southern Oklahoma," said Brian Campbell, CEO of Chickasaw Enterprises. "Our research shows more than 125,000 residents age 17 and younger live within 60 miles of the facility. We expect families to travel from miles around to experience the thrills and excitement offered here."

Lazer Zone will employ up to 150, with a payroll of approximately $1.4 million the first year of operation.

"Most of those employees will be high school and college students who will have a new opportunity to work in a fun and exciting environment," said Mr. Campbell.

Lazer Zone will be open 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Friday; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Lazer Skate

Meeting rooms for birthday parties, church or school outings, family reunions and corporate events are also available.

Special rates are available for parties of 10 or more. Rates include reserved rooms, prepaid game cards, lazer tag, bowling or skating as well as food and soft drinks.

Several groups have already made reservations.

The Lazer Zone is located on Latta Road next to the Ada Travel Stop on Ada's west side.

For more information or to make a reservation, call (580) 332-4855.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Gov. Anoatubby to be inducted into Oklahoma Hall of Fame

Eight outstanding Oklahomans, have been selected for induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2004. This year's honorees include Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby.

The 77th Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 18, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in Oklahoma City.

Anoatubby has been Governor of the Chickasaw Nation since 1987. Under his leadership, the Chickasaw Nation has grown from 250 employees with an $11 million annual budget to more than 4,500 employees and an annual budget of almost $300 million. Anoatubby has stressed education, economic development, and health services and has overseen the development of almost three dozen businesses owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation.

Anoatubby presently is serving his third term as Chairman of the Native American Culture on Educational Authority, which is developing a major, new Native American Cultural Center in Oklahoma City. This will be a world-class facility designed to provide a state, national and international focus on the tribes located in Oklahoma.

The Banquet and Induction Ceremony will be conducted in the Great Hall of the Cox Convention Center. Following the induction ceremony, a reception will be held at the Convention Center near the Grand Ballroom.

Individuals interested in attending the Hall of Fame event, should contact the Oklahoma Heritage Association at (405) 235-4458 or ha@oklahomaher-

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Ticket information listed

Chickasaw Princesses selected

ADA, Okla. – "And the winners are…"

The 2004-05 Chickasaw Nation Princess winners were announced Sept 27.

The new Chickasaw royalty include Chickasaw Princess Shelly Wall, 21, Junior Miss Chickasaw Tesia Worcester, 14, and Little Miss Chickasaw Sesiley Robertson, 11.

"We are very proud of these talented young ladies and look forward to their reign as they serve as ambassadors for Chickasaw people," Governor Bill Anoatubby said.

The new princesses were named during the annual Chickasaw Princess Pageant at the Ada Cougar Activity Center. Tribal employees Jeff Case and Deanna Hartley-Kelso emceed the event.

Parents of Princess Shelly Wall, of Ardmore, are Stephen Wall and Linda Greenwood.

"Princesses are the graceful figures chosen to represent our people, our values and our history," Miss Wall said. "Now, in this new era of prominence and prosperity for the Chickasaw Nation, it is important that these figures represent not only our commitment to preserving the past, but also our passion for prospering our nation and the communities within. Our princesses are representatives of who we are and what we stand for."

The parents of Junior Miss Chickasaw Tesia Worcester, of Stonewall, are Roy and Dinah Worcester.

"I haven't forgotten my past, but look to the future as being part of the Chickasaw Nation. I love teaching, learning and representing the Chickasaw Nation," Miss Worcester said.

Sesiley Robertson, of Connerville, is the daughter of Richard Robertson Jr. and Clarice Jean Culberson. Before the pageant she said, "I would like to be a Chickasaw Princess to support my tribe, country and state. I would like to learn more about my tribe."

The new royalty begin their reign Oct. 2, as Gov. Bill Anoatubby crowns them at the Chickasaw Annual Meeting and Festival.

The princesses will continue to make appearances on behalf of the Chickasaw Nation throughout the year traveling to over 40 events across several states.

The princesses were judged on an essay, interviewing skills, traditional Chickasaw dress, answering random questions, talent competition and poise.

Each princess was awarded a crown, traditional dress, shawl, sash, trophy, gifts and cash prizes.

Completing their reigns as Chickasaw royalty 2003-04 are Chickasaw Princess Kasie McDonald, Junior Miss Chickasaw Erin Brown and Little Miss Chickasaw Nakita Parnacher.

Other candidates vying for the crowns this year included Carla Lane, 18, Ravia; Monica Seawright, 17, Ardmore; Latisha Stick, 17, Ada; Lillian Wade, 17, Ravia; Kristen Walker, 15, Ada; and Kelsie Huffman, 14, Tishomingo.

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Chickasaw Analytical Dictionary authors visit tribe

Catherine Wilmond and Pamela Munro pose for a photo during their recent visit to Ada. Left to right are Onita Carnes, Catherine Wilmond, Tim Harjo, Pamela Munro and Joann Ellis.

Pamela Munro and Catherine Wilmond, authors of the *Chickasaw Analytical Dictionary*, recently visitted the Ada area to visit with Joann Ellis and other friends.

Mrs. Wilmond is a fluent speaker of Chickasaw who learned the language as a young child while growing up near McMillan, Okla. Years later, while living in California, she was introduced to Ms. Munro, a linguistics professor at the University of California at Los Angeles, by the late Reverend Oliver Neal in1977.

Since that time, the two have worked closely to help preserve the Chickasaw language. They have also become close friends.

"We have been working together nearly 30 years and we're still having a good time," said Mrs. Willmond.

Ms. Munro, was quick to agree.

While she has studied dozens of Native languages, Ms. Munro is also quick to point out that Chickasaw is her favorite.

"Chickasaw is the world's best language. I like to call it the WBL, because it sounds like a sports term," said Ms. Munro with a laugh.

In producing the dictionary, Ms. Munro worked closely with Mrs. Wilmond, but the authors also give credit in the forward to more than two dozen fluent Chickasaw speakers who made contributions. Credit is also given to the *Chickasaw Dictionary*, produced by Jesse and Vinnie May (James) Humes.

In addition to the dictionary, which was published in 1994, the pair have also collaborated on a Chickasaw grammar test which has been used in six undergraduate classes at UCLA.

Currently, they are revising and updating that text.

During their visit to Ada, Pamela Munro and Catherine Wilmond took some time to sing Choctaw Hymns.

Workers in the Chickasaw Nation Division of Heritage Preservation are learning Chickasaw in a weekly class conducted in the third story conference room in the American building.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Business net income tops $100 million for 11-month period

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and the tribe's BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Chickasaw Enterprises. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of the tribal operation, other than the transfer from businesses, include sales taxes from the businesses, motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Businesses revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes, sales revenue at convenience, travel plazas and tobacco stores, rent and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the election commission, maintenance and operations of tribal property, *Chickasaw Times* and governor's and lt. governor's offices. Expenditure for education includes education scholarship as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include senior citizens sites, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Depreciation has not been computed on the Fixed Assets of the governmental funds for the past year or the current year. This will be computed after year end in connection with the audit.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending Augusst 31, 2004

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses totaled $2.0 million for the month and $38.1 million for the year.

Expenditures for the month were $1.6 million and $19.6 for the year to date which is slightly less than the budget for the period then ended. Expenditures for construction of fixed assets total $1.5 million for the month and $12.7 million for the year to date. Current expenditures for fixed assets are included in fixed assets.

Chickasaw Businesses

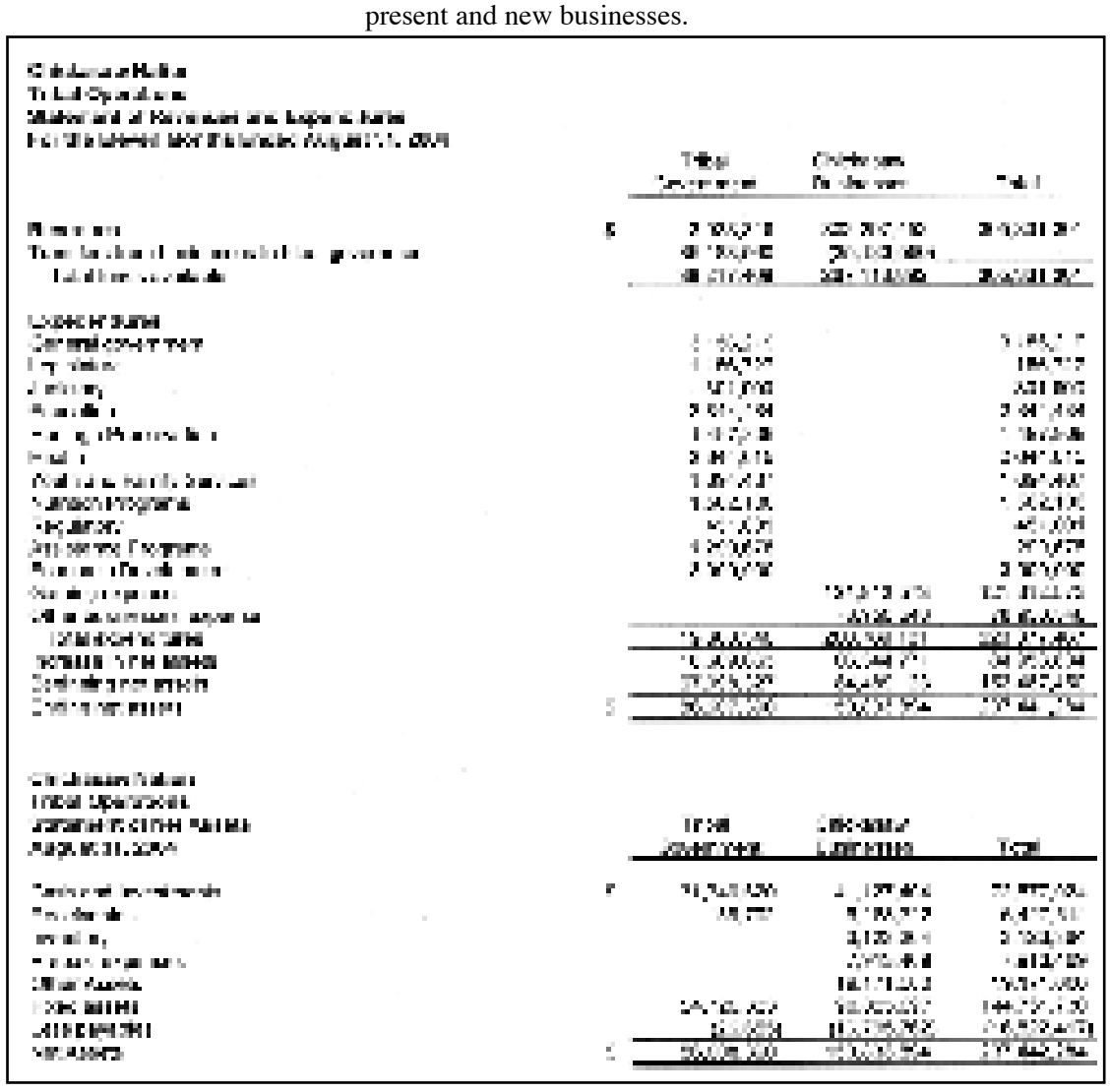
Revenue net of gaming prizes total $302.3 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $101.5 million for the year-to-date and was better than budget. Expenditures for fixed assets were $5.1 million for the month and $39.6 million year to date.

Statement of Net Assets

At August 31, 2004, the tribal government funds had $31.7 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $5.2 million is in the BIA Trust fund.

The businesses had $41.1 million in cash and investments of which $16.8 million is for accounts payable and $24 million is reserved for reinvestment in present and new businesses.

As of August 31, 2004, tribal operations had assets totaling $254.3 million with $16.8 million in payables resulting in net assets of $237.5 million compared to $152.8 million at the beginning of the year or an increase of $84.7 million.



Courtney Cheyenne Walton - Vann celebrated her 10th birthday September 18, 2004.

She is the daughter of Chris and Cynthia Vann, Ada, Okla.

She is the granddaughter of Ervin H. Walton, Ada, Narcie Sue Vann, Stilwell, Okla., and J.C. and Martha Hawkins, Ada. She is the great-granddaughter of Elsie Walton and the late Martha Stick.

She is the niece of Thalia Walton, Ada, Darla Walton, Shawnee, Okla., Marsha Grigsby, Larry Grigsby, Mark Vann and Peggy Miller all of Stilwell, Okla.

Courtney has participated in the Ada Softball League for the past three years and recently completed her first season in 10 & under fast-pitch as a catcher for the Lady Bulldogs.

She has been chosen twice for JOM Student of the Year, awarded several times for Outstanding Student, Student of the Month and Student of the Week. She has received a certificate to be listed in the Governor's Honor Club.

Courtney spends her past-time with her cousins, writing and drawing.

We are very proud of her and all of her accomplishments and want to wish her a very Happy Birthday.

We love you Baby Girl!

Mom and dad

Ashley Nicole Castleberry Miller turned 10 on May 5, 2004. She celebrated May 2 with a cookout and a Spirit theme birthday cake with her friends and family.

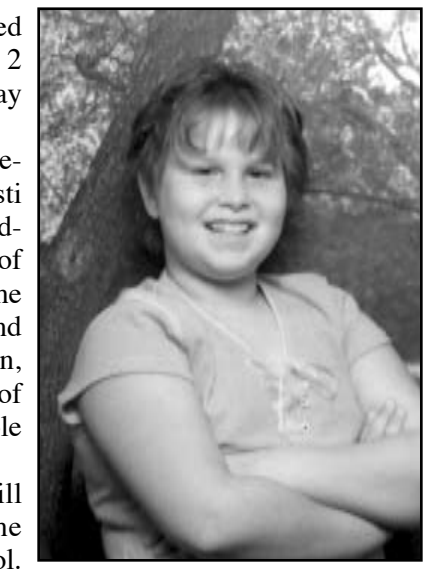
Ashley is the daughter of Andrea Castleberry of Madill, Okla., and Melvin and Kristi Miller of Ardmore, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Fred and Charlene Hightower of Ardmore and Alice Eddy of Ardmore. She is the great-granddaughter of Madeline and the late Sterling D. Johnson of Kingston, Okla., and Izora and the late Dan Grider of Madill. She is the big sister to Cord and Cole McAlister.

Ashley attends the fifth grade at Madill Elementary School and has been on the Governor's Honor Roll since starting school. She played softball this summer where she received a medal and the team received the sportsman award.

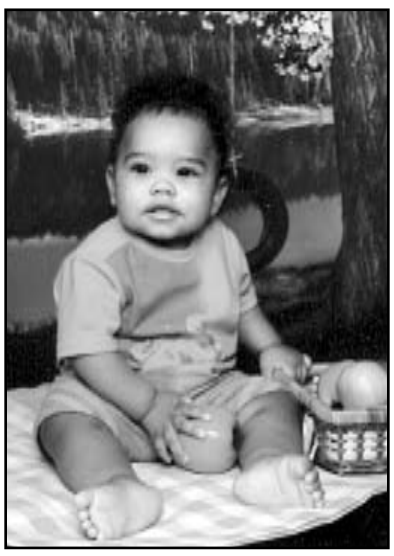
Happy Birthday Ash and Congratulations!

We love you,

Mom, Billy, Cord, Cole, Chelsea and Danielle



Ashley Nicole Miller



Alexander Williams

Alexander James Williams celebrated his first birthday September 13, 2004.

He is the son of April Elizabeth Williams and the grandson of Thomas and Phoebe Williams. He is the nephew of Jennifer Lou Williams and the cousin of Lawrence Thomas Williams.

He is very loved and we wish him a Happy Birthday!

Cord Austin McAlister celebrated his sixth birthday April 29, 2004 with family and friends. He celebrated with a cookout and a Construction crew birthday cake.

Cord is the son of Andrea Castleberry of Madill, Okla., and Bryan McAlister, Madill. He is the grandson of Fred and Charlene Hightower of Ardmore, Okla., and Travis and Winnie McAlister of Madill. He is the great-grandson of Madeline and the late Sterling D. Johnson of Kingston, Okla., Izora and the late Dan Grider of Madill, Okla., and Zella and the late Moose Adams of Madill. Cord is the brother of Ashley and Cole.

Cord is in Mrs. Page's kindergarten class at the new early childhood center in Madill. He enjoys school very much and wants to be a firefighter when he grows up. He played t-ball on his cousin TJ's team this summer.

Happy Birthday Cord!

We love you,

Cord Austin McAlister

Cole Sterling McAlister

Cole Sterling McAlister celebrated his fifth birthday September 4, 2004. He celebrated with a cookout and a birthday cake decorated with four-wheelers (he loves to ride motorcycles).

He is the son of Andrea Castleberry and Bryan McAlister, both of Madill, Okla. He is the grandson of Fred and Charlene Hightower of Ardmore, Okla., and Travis and Winnie McAlister of Madill. He is the great-grandson of Madeline and the late Sterling D. Johnson of Kingston, Okla., Izora and the late Dan Grider of Madill and Zella and the late Moose Adams of Madill. He is the brother of Ashley and Cord.

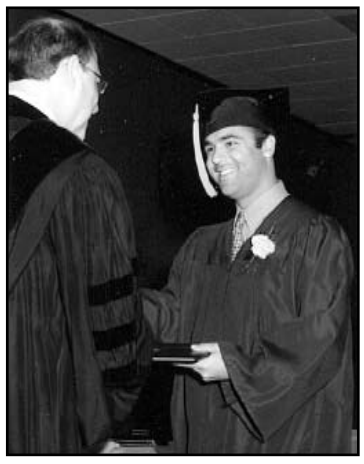
Cole attends the Chickasaw Nation four-year-old program at Madill. He likes to ride the bus after school, he thinks he's a big boy now. Cole along with his brother Cord, played t-ball this summer on their cousin TJ's team. He wants to be a firefighter when he grows up.

Happy Birthday Cole!

We love you,

Mom, Billy, Sissy, Cord, Chelsea and Danielle

Earns engineering degree



Rafael Vazquez-Burney

Rafael Vazquez-Burney is a 2004 Cum Laude graduate of North Carolina State University.

He earned a bachelor of science in environmental engineering.

Rafi is the son of Ellen Burney and Jose Manuel Vazquez of Pfafftown, N.C., and Huelva, Spain.

He is the great-great-grandson of original enrollee Edward Sehon Burney, the great-grandson of Edward Everett Burney and the grandson of Reford Burney.

Rafi is proud of his Chickasaw heritage and grateful for the financial support he received from the Chickasaw Nation.

He has entered graduate school at NCSU this fall.

Chickasaw elder helps dedicate archaeological site, postage stamp

From left, Sally Wells (Mississippi Choctaw), George Macon (Friends of Sellars Farm), Christine Keel (Oklahoma Chickasaw/Choctaw), Lebanon Postmaster Tracy Mofield and Tennessee State Representative Stratton Bone.

Christine Keel, an 85-year-old Chickasaw/Choctaw from Oklahoma offered an invocation in the Choctaw language at the opening ceremonies of "Honoring the Ancient Ones" on September 11.

"Honoring the Ancient Ones" was the theme of the opening of the Sellars Farm Tennessee State Archeological Site in Lebanon, Tennessee. A U.S. postage stamp was also unveiled during the ceremonies. The stamp features a stone effigy discovered in 1939 when the site was excavated by Harvard University archeologists.

The Sellars Farm Site is one of six Mississippian cultural sites in the Nashville area. It is estimated that the site was inhabited from 1000 A.D. to 1300 A.D. The opening of the site is the culmination of over 50 years of work by local and state organizations interested in preserving Tennessee's pre-Columbian heritage.

Middle and western Tennessee were once part of the territory of the Chickasaw Nation. In 1716, the Chickasaw and Cherokee joined forces to drive the Shawnee out of what is now Tennessee. In 1728, the Chickasaw forced the Cherokee back to the Smoky Mountains.

Ms. Keel's granddaughter Caroline Keel, daughter-in-law Kathie Keel, and son Franklin Keel were also present at the ceremonies. Franklin Keel is the Director of the BIA Eastern Region.

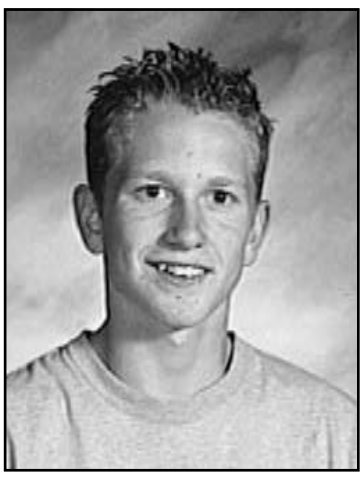
Goff scheduled to report

Derek Goff

Derek Goff, ground surveillance radar operator with the First Armored Brigade, Third Brigade, 245 Military Intelligence Company will be leaving soon for assignment in Baghdad.

Goff is the son of Chuck Goff and Paula Brown. He is the nephew of Chris Redman, administrator of the Chickasaw Nation Education Division.

Chickasaw in 'Who's Who'



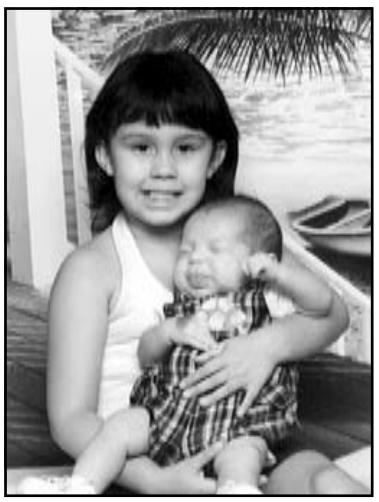
Dillon Lack

Chickasaw student Dillon Lack was recently nominated to *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for the 2003-2004 school year.

Dillon is currently a sophomore student at Newcastle High School, Newcastle, Okla.

He is the son of Shana Lack and Robert Ridenour. He is the grandson of Emma and Charles Lack and Mitch and Donna Jarrel.

Births



Macy Moore and Bradley Johnson

Macy Erin Moore, 5, announces the arrival of her cousin Bradley Kyle Johnson.

Bradley was born at the OU Medical Center, Oklahoma City, at 7:17 p.m., June 11, 2004. He weighed 6 lbs., 4 ozs., and measured 19 inches.

He is the son of Deanna Johnson of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of Wanda Johnson of Madill, Okla., and the great-grandson of Calvin Johnson of Ardmore, Okla.

Cydnee Miller

Cydnee Rese Miller was born July 28, 2004 at 10:16 p.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 11.2 ozs., and measured 20 inches.

She is the daughter of Rick and Sherri Miller of Mill Creek, Okla. She is the little sister to MaKynlee Shyann Miller.

Cydnee is the granddaughter of Robert and Mae Hamilton of Mill Creek, and Francis Miller of Ada, Okla. She is the great-granddaughter of Minnie Shields, Harden City, Okla., the late Joe Shields, the late Joe and Euline Hamilton and the late Adam and Viola Walker.

Sophia Ogas

Sophia Grace Ogas was born Feb. 4, 2004, at Silver City, N.M.

She is the daughter of Callie and Mario Ogas. Her siblings are Marshall, Isaac and Abigail welcomed her much love.

She is a descendant of original enrollee Mary Sugars Johnson Jack.

Our wish for her is long life and lasting love!

From left, Lyndon Redman, Colby Scroggins and Cameron Parker

Colby James Scroggins is proud to announce the arrival of his new cousins.

Lyndon James Redman was born July 14, 2004. He is the son of James and Aftann Redman of Ardmore, Okla.

Cameron Marcel Parker was born July 8, 2004. He is the son Amanda and Shehan Parker of Ardmore.

Colby James Scroggins, 3, is the son of Tiffanie and Cory Scroggins of Noble, Okla.

Colby, Lyndon and Cameron are the grandchildren of Chris and Dana Redman.

She has a passion for Indian dolls

Gayle Mitchell, of Purcell, Okla., sets amid her Indian doll collection. To date, she has 49 dolls with the hope of adding to her collection in the future.

If you step into Gayle Mitchell's home on any given day you'll quickly observe the pride she has for being a Native American. Her passion for the culture shines bright in the 49 Indian dolls she has on display in her living room.

She's been collecting the dolls for years. She buys one every few weeks and many are purchased at the Chickasaw Nation Senior Citizens Nutrition Site in Purcell. The joke around the senior site is if there are no dolls in the gift shop, Gayle has been there.

Gayle has crocheted dolls, porcelain dolls, setting and standing dolls, dolls in all sizes. "When I see one, I've just got to have it," she said.

To Gayle, the dolls are more than just dolls; they each have a story and their own unique way of showcasing Native American culture.

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Tribal Job Fair on Oct. 26

ADA, Okla. – The third annual Ada Area Job Fair is scheduled for Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pontotoc Technology Center, 601 W. 33rd Street.

Over 20 companies are expected to take applications for a variety of jobs, so jobseekers should come professionally dressed and bring plenty of résumés.

"Due to the overwhelming layoffs in Pontotoc County, we feel a job fair may help the people find jobs that have been laid off or had their hours cut due to the economic slowdown," said Darrell Walker, Chickasaw Nation career counselor.

"This will create an opportunity for individuals to meet with employers one-on-one," he said. "Our philosophy is that if just one person gets hired, it was worth it"

The job fair is sponsored by the Ada Jobs Foundation, the Chickasaw Nation, Pontotoc Technology Center and Workforce Oklahoma.

The booth registration deadline for companies is Oct. 19. Booth space is limited.

For more information on the job fair, call Darrell Walker at (580) 436-7262.

Peter Defenderfer was awarded his Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout March 1, 2004.

Billy endorsed

Former Chickasaw tribal legislator Lisa Billy, a candidate for Oklahoma State Representative, District 42, has been endorsed by *the Native American Times*.

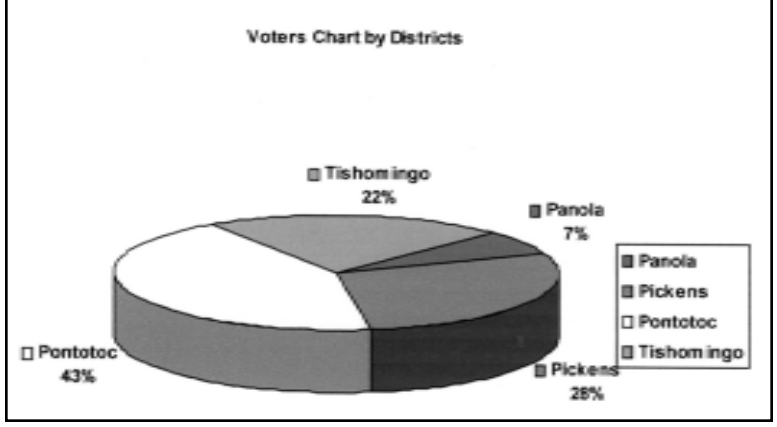
Billy, a Republican, is "someone who truly cares about people...who wants to build relationships with tribal governments instead of destroy them," *the Times* writes.

"She represents the best parts of the Republican party."

Billy will face Democrat Patrick Grimmett, a Pauls Valley banker, in the Nov. 2 general election.

Count of Voters by District

Panola	1231
Pickens	5346
Pontotoc	8108
Tishomingo	4106
	18791



Chickasaw journalist studies water issues

Vicki Monks

Chickasaw writer and television correspondent Vicki Monks is returning to her home in Santa Fe. N.M., this fall after completing two prestigious journalism fellowships. Ms. Monks was selected in national competition as a Ted Scripps Fellow in Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado. She followed that program with an Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources fellowship in Oregon.

As a Scripps Fellow, Ms. Monks spent the past year pursuing advanced studies in science, ecology and American Indian law. The program allowed her the opportunity to study under preeminent Indian law scholar Charles Wilkinson at the University of Colorado Law School. In Oregon, Ms. Monks investigated water rights and usage issues in the Klamath basin where 33,000 salmon perished two years ago because of low flows in the Klamath River. As part of the IJNR Fellowship, she interviewed irrigators, ranchers and tribal representatives, including Allen Foreman, chairman of the united Klamath Tribes.

Although she will be living in New Mexico, the Chickasaw journalist will also be spending a great deal of time in Oklahoma, where she is working on a book about Indian Country 100 years after statehood. She will be collaborating on the project with the well-known Yuchi/Creek photographer and artist Richard Ray Whitman. Earlier this year, Mr. Whitman and Ms. Monks were selected as finalists for the prestigious Lange-Taylor Prize based upon their preliminary work on the Oklahoma project.

Previously in her career, Ms. Monks worked as a television news reporter for KWTV in Oklahoma City and KDFW in Dallas. She has spent more then 30 years as a television and radio correspondent, documentary producer and magazine writer. Her articles have appeared in magazines including *National Wildlife, Rolling Stone, American Journalism Review and Vogue*. She was also the primary author of an in-depth PBS website produced as a companion to the Bill Moyers documentary *Trade Secrets,* http://www.pbs.org/tradesecrets.

Ms. Monks is a frequent contributor to National Public Radio's Living on Earth, and has reported for NPR's All Things Considered, BBC Radio Five, and other programs. In the 1980's she served as managing editor of the Washington office of the Center for Investigative Reporting where she supervised special investigations for CBS 60 Minutes, ABC 20/20, and other network news programs. She has also worked as an investigator and location field producer on documentaries for Central Television of London, A&E cable network's Investigative Reports and the National Geographic cable television program Science Times.

Her television and radio productions have won national and international recognition with awards including the Prix Italia, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Gold Award, the George Foster Peabody Award, and awards from the National Education Association, the Associated press, United Press International, Women in Communications, The Trial Lawyers Association of American, Sigma Delta Chi and others. Ms. Monks also attended Stanford University as a Professional Journalism Fellow. She is an honors graduate of the University of Oklahoma.

She is the daughter of Jo Jean Monks. She is the granddaughter of Flossie Adcock and the great-granddaughter of original enrollee Noah Watson.

NASA Chickasaw reconnects with past, pursues the future

Denise Wolfe Catone

While doing her part to ensure America's future in space, Denise Wolfe Catone, who serves as a Human Resources Officer at NASA's Stennis Space Center (SSC), in South Mississippi, found herself reconnecting with her own forgotten past.

With fair skin and auburn hair, Catone looks more Irish than Native American. But today she respectfully honors her heritage as a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

"I've always known I was part Native American," said Catone. "It just wasn't something my family discussed often," she explained.

As a child, Catone knew her father, Leo Wolfe, was one-half Chickasaw and had attended Chilocco Indian School, a boarding school established near the Kansas border by the U.S. government in 1884 to educate children of the Oklahoma tribes. Her father, a decorated World War II veteran, talked little about his heritage.

At the age of 17, Catone quit college and joined the U.S. Women's Army Corps. It was 1967, the height of the Vietnam War, and she wanted to follow her parents' example and serve her country. Her father had been awarded a Purple Heart in World War II, and her mother had served in the Women's Army Corps in Europe in World War II.

Catone's military assignment began at Fort McClellan in Anniston, Ala., where she earned the right to raise and lower the post's flag each day, a detail then rarely assigned to women. In 1970, serving overseas in Heidelberg, Germany, as an administrative specialist, she met and married her husband. She left the Women's Army Corps not long afterward and returned to the United States.

In the next 12 years, Catone earned a bachelor's degree in biology from California State University, Sacramento, and a master's degree in systems and safety management from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Even as she grew professionally, Catone had yet to renew her interest in her heritage.

When Catone became a personnel specialist at SSC in 1987, though, she decided to become involved with the center's Native American heritage activities and began researching her family history, which proved eye opening.

"To be acknowledged as a member of the Chickasaw Nation, I had to trace my family lineage," Catone said. "I submitted birth and marriage certificates to the Bureau of Indian Affairs within the Department of the Interior," she added.

When she received the letter indicating that she had met the requirements to be designated a member of the Chicasaw Nation, Catone was "disconcerted," she recalled, to realize the action had been handled by the Department of the Interior's Real Property Management division. "It makes me appreciate where we are today," she said.

By the time Catone transferred in 2000 to the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Florida, where she served as a human resources specialist, she had become fully involved in heritage awareness efforts. One of her proudest moments came in November 2002, when John Herrington, the first tribally registered Native American astronaut and a fellow member of the Chickasaw Nation, flew aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour. Catone helped organize NASA-sponsored activities that honored Herrington's heritage.

"It was through NASA that I truly re-established my ties with the Chickasaw Nation," Catone said with gratitude.

Catone served as an advisor and counselor to the Senior Executive Service Corps at Kennedy, the personnel system that covers most of the top managerial, supervisory and policy positions in the executive branch of the federal government.

She recently spent six months honing her own leadership skills under the tutelage of KSC Director Jim Kennedy. "The people of NASA are tremendous," Catone said. "There is a great wealth of knowledge and an immense commitment to our country," she added. But the agency's value and importance runs deeper still, she said.

Catone returned to SSC to become the Human Resources Officer. "NASA makes dreams come true, and becoming the Human Resources Officer for Stennis is the fulfillment of my career dream on my journey of discovery," Cantone said.

Contributed by Rebecca Strecker, Stennis Space Center Public Affairs.

'Halloween Safe House' Oct. 30

ADA, Okla. - The annual KADA/Cable One/ Agriplex "Halloween Safe House," has been officially scheduled for Saturday night, Oct 30.

The annual event, started by tribally-owned KADA 15 years ago, has grown into one of the single largest events in the area, attracting crowds of up to 5,000 people.

"The Safe House started strictly as a means to provide a safe environment for kids to receive safe candy and treats. The first year we put on the event, we had maybe 15 participants and possibly 1,000 people. It has now grown into a huge community event, with over 40 participating groups featuring some very elaborate displays."

The Chickasaw Nation participates in the event by providing candy, and sponsoring booths from different divisions including Chickasaw Enterprises, Search and Rescue and Carl Albert.

The "Safe House" has received recognition and awards from many state groups, including the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters and the Department of Human Services.

The Safe House will operate from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the night of October 30 and is a totally free event open to the public. For inquiries about hosting a booth or any other questions, contact Judie Hansen at KADA, (580) 332-1212.

'Its About Money'

Minority supplier development offers opportunity for Chickasaw businesses

J.D. Colbert

By J.D. COLBERT

Later this month, I and other representatives of Bank2 will be attending the 26th annual National Minority Supplier Development Conference (NMSDC) in Washington, D.C. The conference will be held at the newly enlarged Washington Convention Center. This facility is huge, about 2.1 million square feet! To put that in perspective, it is bigger than six football fields.

The facility will need all of that space to accommodate the nearly 7,000 people from companies big and small who will be attending the conference. The 2004 NMSDC Business Fair provides an opportunity for small companies to market and promote their products and services to corporate America. This will be our first time attending this event and we hope to come away with lots of new business opportunities.

Those of you who are Chickasaw business owners should avail yourself of the business development opportunities afforded through membership in the NMSDC. The NMSDC has affiliate organizations in most states. Here in Oklahoma, it is the Oklahoma Minority Supplier Development Council. The NMSDC is supported by virtually all of the Fortune 500 companies. These companies recognize that increasing the diversity in their supplier base can help them better serve their customers.

To participate in the NMSDC a company must first be certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) by your statewide council. This is a relatively painless process although it involves filling out a few forms and the payment of an annual fee of $150. Most of the large companies will require that you first obtain this certification prior to establishing a supplier relationship.

With the MBE certification in hand, you generally must then register with each Fortune 500 company that you intend to do business with. Usually this is done right on the company's website. After that, it is simply a matter of contacting the appropriate people at each company and building relationships to obtain business. It's not a "gimme" but many small businesses have used this process to develop profitable relationships with large companies. I encourage all of our Chickasaw small business owners to take a look at the NMSDC.

Next year in 2005 the national conference will be just down the road in Dallas. By that time, I hope to be able to report to you that your bank has taken full advantage of these business development opportunities.

J.D. Colbert serves as Executive Vice President, Native American Services at Bank2. Bank2 is a growing $60 million full service financial institution with its headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK. Bank2 is owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation. Its' About Money is published monthly by the Bank2, as a financial service to members of the Chickasaw Nation.

Chickasaw Election Guide

A guide to federal and state candidates and their views on tribal sovereignty

The official publication of the Chickasaw Nation, *the Chickasaw Times*, submitted a political questionnaire to candidates running for office within Chickasaw Nation borders and to federal candidates who serve citizens within the Chickasaw Nation.

It is important for Chickasaw citizens to exercise their right to vote. With the questionnaire, we hope to familiarize Chickasaw citizens with federal and state political candidates and their views on Native American issues.

2004 Elections

Counties within the Chickasaw Nation boarders: Partial Grady, McClain, Garvin, Pontotoc, partial Stephens, Carter, Murray, Johnston, partial Jefferson, Love, Marshall, partial Bryan and partial Coal Counties.

	US Rep	State Senate*	State Rep
Bryan County	Dist 2	6	20, 21
Carter County	Dist 4	14	48, 49
Coal County	Dist 2	6, **13**	20
Garvin County	Dist 4	**13**, 14	22, 42
Grady County	Dist 4	**23,** 24, **31**	42, 47, 51, 56, 65
Jefferson County	Dist 4	**31**	51
Johnston County	Dist 2	6	20
Love County	Dist 4	14	49
Marshall County	Dist 4	6	49
McClain County	Dist 4	**15,** 16, 24	22, 25, 42, 46, 51
Murray County	Dist 4	14	22
Pontotoc County	Dist 4	**13**	20, 22, 25
Stephens County	Dist 4	24, **31**	50, 51

***** Only voting on odd districts in the Oklahoma State Senate.

Below are the candidates for the General Election Nov. 2. All candidates running for office within the Chickasaw Nation borders were submitted political questionnaires from the Chickasaw Nation. Despite follow-up invitations to do so, some did not respond. The basic biographical and political information has been reprinted courtesy of *The Oklahoman*.

President and Vice President of the United States

· D - John F. Kerry and John Edwards

· R - George W. Bush and Dick Cheney

United States Senator

· D - Brad Carson, 37, Claremore

Born: Winslow, Arizona

Spouse: Julie

Children: Plan to start a family in the near future.

Occupation: U.S. Congress

Church home: First Baptist Church, Claremore

Education: B.A., Baylor University; M.A., Oxford University; Juris Doctorate, University of Oklahoma

Previous offices: U.S. Congress, 2000-present

Job/Income: U.S. Congressman for Oklahoma's Second District

Memberships: Vice-Chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus, Transportation and Resources Committee in House of Representatives, Blue Dog Coalition, National Rifle Association, Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus

Top Issues: (In no specific order) Jobs, Health Care, Roads, Education, Seniors

Ranking of issues: My top priority as a United States Senator will be fighting for job development in Oklahoma. But that really can't be separated from a host of other issues that help create a good economic environment - that's why I have worked in the U.S. Congress to lower taxes and to improve grants for economic development, schools, law enforcement, fire departments, and agriculture. I am a fiscal conservative and will work for a balanced budget, but when the money is being spent, I will fight tooth and nail for Oklahoma's fair share. As United States Senator, my first priority will always be doing what is best for all Oklahomans.

Another key issue for Oklahoma right now is our status as a donor state when it comes to funding for our roads and bridges. Twenty-two percent of our roads are in poor condition and one in three of our bridges are structurally deficient. We must take action to make our roads safer and stronger, and that starts by making sure we don't keep sending more money to Washington in gas taxes than we get back in highway funds. That's why I pledge to continue fighting until Oklahoma gets 100% of its gas taxes back from Washington. I also want to make sure that all of Oklahoma's schools receive the funds they need, and I believe we should help more Oklahomans go to college by increasing the amount of Pell Grants and supporting programs to help at-risk youth stay in school. I pledge to keep Oklahoma's military bases open and to make sure that our troops have the support they need to do their jobs safely.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

In 1831 a Supreme Court Opinion handed down a ruling in *Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia* stating an Indian tribe is a distinct political society, capable of managing its own affairs and governing itself. This means that courts must allow Indian tribes to govern social and economic life on reservation lands without interference from state governmental authority. I believe that a government-to-government relationship is the best way to work with American Indian tribes.

I firmly believe the U.S. Government should honor the commitments it has made to recognize tribes. As Congressman I have been an advocate of tribal self-government and self-determination. I introduced the Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations Claims Settlement Act to provide compensation for land and resources taken from these sovereign tribes along the Arkansas River. I also co-sponsored a bill to recognize the citizenship rights of the Tohono O'odham Nation, and supported HR 2419, a bill to provide for the protection of lands sacred to Native Americans. I believe the United States government must live up to its responsibility to the Indian community, and as Senator he will keep fighting to make sure the U.S. government keeps its promises.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Oklahoma recognizes 39 federal tribes. These tribes support a diverse culture in Oklahoma, bring tourism, and produce millions of dollars for the state each year. I believe that it is imperative that these tribes retain their sovereign status. It is a tribe's right to determine its own economic stability. In the United States Senate, I will keep fighting to ensure sovereignty for Oklahoma's tribes.

· R - Tom Coburn, 56, Muskogee

Born: Casper, Wyo.

Spouse: Carolyn

Children: Three children

Occupation: Physician

Church home: New Community Church, Muskogee

Education: Oklahoma State University, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine

Previous offices: U.S. Congress, 2nd District, 1995-2001

Job/Income: No response

Memberships: No response

Top issues: No response

Ranking of issues: No response

Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

· I - Sheila Bilyeu, Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

That the individuals in the tribe should vote on their most important issues and that should be the law.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

The people in the tribe should have control of their own laws and lives as long as it didn't hurt others, such as in air pollution. The Oklahoma Government and the U.S. Government should stay out of trying to control the tribes, such as in the running of the casinos. This should impact good Oklahoman's in a good way' people should be able to choose their own laws, etc.

United States Representative

Dist 2 - Bryan, Coal, Johnston, other counties outside border

· D - Dan Boren, 31, Okemah

Born: Shawnee

Spouse: None listed

Children: None listed

Occupation: Member, Oklahoma State House of Representatives
Church home: United Methodist Church
Education: MBA, University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: State House of Representatives
Job/Income: No response
Memberships: Rotary Club; Big Brothers and Big Sisters; National Rifle Association; Safari Club; ORA; Jasmine Moran Children's Museum, board
Top Issues: unemployment; bring quality jobs back to eastern Oklahoma
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Health care. 3. Education. 4. Aging issues. 5. Crime. 6. Taxes. 7. Children/youth. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

As a candidate for U.S. Congress, I would define tribal sovereignty as the seed from which all decisions regarding Native American issues will sprout from my office. In plain terms I view Indian Nations as separate governmental entities within the United States of America, and strong allies for the betterment of Eastern Oklahoma.

I strongly support the sovereignty of all Indian Nations and will fight aggressively to support Native Americans. In the light of our State's unique history, this is a fundamental moral obligation that every public servant in Oklahoma must uphold.

The longstanding concept of Indian Sovereignty has at times come under attack. But despite numerous challenges, many of our tribes are stronger than ever. State and federal officials must work hand in hand with Tribal leaders to protect sovereignty and to build a better future for all of our peoples.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Although tribal sovereignty is by necessity a means of defining the boundaries and jurisdiction between governments, my philosophy as Congressmen will be to determine where the strength of sovereign nations can be harnessed to benefit all Oklahomans.

With tens of thousands of people unemployed in Oklahoma's 2nd district, jobs and economic development are crucial aspects of my policy platform.1 First, I will work to reinstate Federal Law 168J, the former Indian Lands Tax Credit. While most Oklahomans have never heard of this special law, all Oklahomans have felt it. 168J provides a strong federal tax incentive to any business that is located on former Indian lands. Fortunately, entire 2nd Congressional District qualifies as former Indian land. The law is scheduled to expire next year, so we need a congressman who will go to Washington and fight to make sure that Oklahoma retains this crucial tax incentive that brings many millions of dollars in jobs to our state.

I am proud of the tremendous impact our Indian nations have on this great state. The Chickasaw Nation alone employs thousands of people directly within tribal government and business enterprises, and their indirect economic impact on the district totals several million dollars. That statistic is even more encouraging when you learn that these are not just minimum wage jobs. These are quality jobs with health care, benefits, and retirement. In order to create an even better future for our children, these are the types of jobs we must attract to Eastern Oklahoma. As your Congressman, I will fight to bring quality jobs to tribal nations in Eastern Oklahoma.

Health care is a very important issue in my campaign, and it will remain a very important issue throughout my term in office. Indian heath care workers are highly trained medical professionals who deliver high quality care through a network of valuable institutions. In the United States Congress, it is our duty to make sure these Health Care professionals have the funding and tools needed to deliver the highest quality care to our Native American Citizens.

Safe, quality roads are essential to economic development and prosperity. Indian reservation roads are public roads which provide access to and within Indian reservations, Indian trust land, restricted Indian land, and Alaska native villages, and about 25,000 miles of these roads are under jurisdiction of BIA and tribes. Another 24,000 miles or roads are under State and local ownership. Indian Reservation Roads cannot be ignored.

As your Congressmen I will seek to strengthen sovereignty and expand its tremendous economic and cultural impact on the state of Oklahoma. I humbly ask for the support of the Chickasaw Nation.

· R - Wayland Smalley, 41, Chelsea
Born: Powell, Wyo.
Spouse: Marci
Children: None listed
Occupation: Ranch manager
Church home: Baptist
Education: Billings West High School, Billings, Mont.
Previous offices: None
Job/income: No response
Memberships: National Rifle Association
Top issues: Jobs; education; Social Security; taxes; homeland security
Ranking of issues: 1. Taxes. 2. Education. 3. Economy. 4. Aging issues. 5. Health care. 6. Homeland security. 7. Crime. 8. Environment. 9. Children/youth. 10. Military downsizing.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

As a member of the Cherokee Nation I have always been interested in Indian issues. As your representative I will be in a position to help further those issues. I intend to have a liaison office in either Muskogee or Tahlequah to keep me up to date on all Indian issues and counsel decisions. Also as your representative, there are parliamentary procedures and appropriation pressures that can be applied to the various agencies. I will use these tools to fix the wrongs that have held the Tribes down.

Yes, as a member of the Cherokee Nation I recognize the sovereignty of the Indian Tribes. Working through my liaison office in close consultation with the Indian counsels, I will author any appropriate legislation that will insure promises made are promises kept.

As your representative and member of the Cherokee Nation I will author and co-sponsor legislation for reauthorization of such programs as, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Indian Reservation Roads, Language Initiatives and anything else that the Indian counsels deems appropriate to help the people of the Tribes.

I know relatives that remember when their parents and grandparents lost their allotted lands. With so little land left, I do support the reform of the 1947 Act. As your representative in Washington I will use the tools available to me to insure the protection of all Indian lands.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma?

As a member of the Cherokee Nation, I am also excited at the strong economic impact the Cherokee Nation is having on Northeastern Oklahoma. Our future looks good, but there is still a lot of work to do. I will work at the national level for continued growth. I will oppose and fight against any legislation that will infringe upon the Cherokee Nation and all Indians sovereign decisions in the area of economic growth.

As a member of the Cherokee Nation, I personally have many relatives that depend on the Indian health services for all their medical needs. This is a very important issue to me and I will do everything I can to see that the health care level is comparable with the health care provided to federal employees.

My name is Wayland Smalley and I am a member of the Cherokee Nation. I am not a fancy politician or a slick lawyer. I am your neighbor, a working man that raises horses for a living. My answers may seem a bit general, but believing the Nation is sovereign I will be acting on the counsel's decisions in all matters concerning the Tribe as well as all tribes. On all other issues, my votes will be guided by my conservative values. This is my pledge to you, as a Cherokee and as a man. I am asking for your vote to send me to congress.

Dist 4: Carter, Garvin, Grady, Jefferson, Love, Marshall, McClain, Murray, Pontotoc, Stephens and other counties outside border

· R - Tom Cole, 55, Moore, incumbent
Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty is a concept enshrined in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 8). It is integral to the government to government relations enjoyed by tribes, the states and the federal government. Simply stated, it means that Native Americans, through their tribal governments, are U.S. citizens and sovereign peoples who must be accorded the ability to organize their lives individually and collectively as they see fit. Under the Constitution, Congress has the power to set the terms of tribal sovereignty.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma?

The amazing economic and cultural renaissance of tribes and Native Americans we are so proud of is a direct result of tribal sovereignty. I am committed to ensuring the federal government honors its historic and constitutional obligations to the tribes. In Oklahoma, the Chickasaw Nation and the other tribes should be proud of their contributions to the newfound economic opportunities of their people and what they do every day to help all Oklahomans. The examples of how tribes positively impact Oklahoma are almost too numerous to count, from economic growth and diversification, to good jobs for Native Americans and non-tribal members alike, roads and bridges we all use, better schools and healthcare, respect for our elders, and the dignity that comes to all Oklahomans who know they are able to make and

earn better opportunities in the future for themselves and their children.

· Charlene Bradshaw – I
Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner

· D - John Wylie, 51, Oologah
Born: Not listed
Spouse: Faith
Children: One child
Occupation: Journalist
Church home: Oologah United Methodist Church
Education: Bachelor's degree in history and political science, Grinnell College, Iowa
Previous offices: None
Job/Income: Oologah Lake Leader Newspaper, owner
Memberships: Society of Environmental Journalists; Society of Professional Journalists; Freedom of Information; Freedom of Information Oklahoma, Inc.; Investigative Reporters and Editors; Oklahoma Press Association; National Newspaper Association; Authors Guild; Mensa, Oologah Area Chamber of Commerce
Top Issues: Focus on the real energy problems facing Oklahoma
Ranking of issues: No response
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

A. Tribal sovereignty means precisely what it says: Tribal entities such as the Chickasaw Nation are independent political entities with the right of self- governance. That means such entities must be afforded the same level of sovereignty afforded to any other state within the union. Relationships between, for example, the Chickasaw Nation and the State of Oklahoma must generally be governed by the same types of compacts that would govern relationships between, for example, the States of Kansas and Oklahoma. As a practical matter, this means allowing the tribal entities to license vehicles, decide judicial, legislative and executive issues within the framework of their own constitutions or other government structure, etc. This is an evolving area as far as the Corporation Commission is concerned, which has so far become most visible in the areas of oil and gas production and pollution control and the sale of gasoline at retail by tribal entities. However, as tribal enterprises continually become more economically important and sophisticated, the Commission will have to adapt its procedures to properly reflect and respect tribal sovereignty issues. While I cannot make pledges on any judicial proceeding the Commission may face, because each must be decided on the evidence presented, I can make pledges in two areas:

*I absolutely reject the policies and underlying philosophy of the so-called "One Nation" organization, which supports my opponent. Tribal sovereignty is as much an underlying part of Oklahoma's future as its Constitution and the US Constitution. I consider much of the One Nation agenda to be a thinly disguised form of bigotry, and neither the organization nor its philosophy are acceptable to me.

*All Oklahomans are ill-served by the current atmosphere of secrecy surrounding the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. As I work to open the commission and its services to all Oklahomans, I will place special emphasis on finding ways to ensure tribal participation at both the governmental and individual citizen level.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

A. During a period of economic stagnation, Oklahoma's sovereign Indian entities have provided an enormous source of economic development strength. As I drive through the state, it is clear where the tribes are strong: The economy, the quality of life, and the services available to average citizens are all far above areas without a strong Indian presence.

As publisher of the *Oologah Lake Leader* newspaper, I have strongly supported cross-deputization at the county level. This is especially important in my home county, Rogers, because of the Cherokee Nation's casino and resort complex at Catoosa and its ownership of Will Rogers Downs. I have been meeting with tribal leaders during the campaign (including a brief informal discussion with Governor Anoatubby with a formal meeting in the scheduling process) to fully understand their concerns involving issues within the OCC's jurisdiction. When elected, I plan to meet with all the tribes to develop cooperative plans for areas such as oil and gas regulation where the tribes and the Oklahoma Corporation Commission can share expertise and staff in mutually beneficial ways. Tribal/state compacts are a vital recognition of the sovereignty of the tribes, and provide a valuable way for both sides to full understand and implement the duties, responsibilities and benefits in specific relationships. I have been pleased to see this important tool mature and develop as a basic part of state-tribal relations. My vision is to see the day when tribal/state compacts are a vital recognition of true partnerships devoted to common goals.

As your Corporation Commissioner, I will be committed to helping the Chickasaw Nation harness and focus its economic development potential. This will be good for the Nation, good for its people, and good for the people and state of Oklahoma as a whole.

· R - Denise Bode, 50, Oklahoma City
Born: Tulsa
Spouse: John
Children: One child, age 21
Occupation: Chairman, Corporation Commission
Church home: cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Education: Bachelor's degree in political science, The University of Oklahoma; Master's of Law in taxation, Georgetown University; Juris Doctorate, George Mason University.
Previous offices: Corporation Commission
Job/Income: No response
Memberships: Chairman of the Foundation of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC); Committee of Critical Infrastructure; Consumer Affairs and Telecommunications of NARUC; Intergovernmental Advisory Committee of the Federal Communications Commission; Chair of the Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure for the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission
Top Issues: I will continue working to make Oklahoman an energy powerhouse with first-rate telecommunications that will grow Oklahoma businesses and jobs.
Ranking of issues: No response
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

My understanding of the state law governing Indian Sovereignty is: By virtue of aboriginal political and territorial status, American Indian tribes possess certain incidents of preexisting sovereignty; (2) such sovereignty is subject to diminution or elimination by the United States, but not by the individual states; and (3) the tribes' limited inherent sovereignty and their corresponding dependency on the United States for protection imposed on the latter a trust responsibility. The key issue is sovereignty over what lands-reservation (formal or informal), dependent Indian communities, Indian allotments (whether restricted or held in trust).

2***. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.***

My understanding is, in Oklahoma, with the obvious exception of the Osage Nation's reserve in Osage County, there are no traditional reservation lands with definite geographical boundaries controlled by the other 38 American Indian nations. This sets Oklahoma apart from other states with reservation lands with the possible exception of Alaska. Here what the tribes possess "sovereignty" over is a noncontiguous patchwork of land interspersed with private, county, state, and federal land. While I cannot speak for other areas of state government, at present in Oklahoma with the exception of the Osage Nation, the general public health, safety and welfare of individual American Indian property owners and tribal trust lands are protected by existing state-based environmental standards which are audited by the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

State Senate

Dist 13: Partial Garvin, Pontotoc, partial Coal, Hughes
· D - Susan Paddack, 51, Ada
Born: Baytown, Texas
Spouse: Gary
Children: Two children; ages 23, 20
Occupation: Local education foundation director
Church home: First Presbyterian Church
Education: B.S., education, University of Colorado; M.S. secondary education, East Central University
Previous offices; none
Job/Income: Oklahoman Foundation for Excellence
Memberships: Leadership Oklahoma, Class XVI, Oklahoma Academy, Jasmine Moran Children's Art Museum, Oklahoma Arts Institute
Top issues: Health care; jobs; education
Ranking of issues: 1. Health care. 2. Economy. 3. Education. 4. Aging issues. 5. Children/youth. 6. Military downsizing. 7. Taxes. 8. Environment. 9. Crime. 10. Homeland security.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

My understanding of tribal sovereignty is that it means the right of the Indian tribes to form their own governments. This right is defined by the federal government and allows the tribes to operate and do business in accordance with these rights.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

The impact that the tribes have on our state is positive. As a citizen of Ada, most of my knowledge of the tribal impact comes from what I observe here. I am very impressed with the accomplishments and success of the Chickasaw tribe. Under the outstanding leadership of Governor Bill Anoatubby, the Chickasaws have significantly grown their businesses. This means more jobs for the people of our area. It means more dollars being put back into the general economy. It means more prosperity for our district. I also appreciate how the tribe has invested in the community by sponsoring worthwhile organizations that help children, by donating funds to roads and economic development projects, and by contributing to many other worthy causes that enhance the quality of life here. They show a caring attitude for helping all the people in this district in addition to all they do for their tribe members.

· R - Karroll Rhoads, 55, Ada

Born: Ada

Spouse: None listed

Children: None listed

Occupation: Builder

Church home: Union Valley Baptist Church, Ada

Education: Attended University of Texas, East Central University

Previous offices: State representative, district 25 (1988, 1992, 1994).

Job/Income: Rhoads Construction Co., Inc.

Memberships: No response

Top issues: Economy/jobs; education; health care

Ranking of issues: Economy. 2. Taxes. 3. Education. 4. Children/youth. 5. Aging issues. 6. Health care. 7. Crime. 8. Environment. 9. Homeland security. 10. Military downsizing.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

The United States of America has recognized certain Indian Nations as sovereign. As such, these Nations are Governments within themselves and should be awarded that recognition by not only the Federal government, but by state governments and those elected to government. As in the past, if I am elected to office, I am committed to working in the best interest of both the State of Oklahoma and the Chickasaw Nation as well as all other recognized nations within the state. As a State Representative, I enjoyed a good working relationship with Gov. Anoatubby and the Chickasaw Nation and would look forward to a continued positive relationship if elected to the State Senate.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma?

The impact on Oklahoma as a whole has been positive. There are issues and will continue to be issues that need the attention of the Indian nations and the State of Oklahoma. I am confident that, as in the past, these issues of concern will continue to be resolved in the mutual best interest of the nations and the State.

Dist 15: Partial McClain and partial Cleveland

· D- Lisa Pryor, 47, Norman

Born: Not listed

Spouse: Dick

Children six children: ages 25, 23, 21, 20, 19, 16

Occupation: Education consultant

Church home: First Presbyterian Church, Norman

Education: Southwest Oklahoma State University; Southwest Oklahoma State University

Previous offices: None

Job/income: Independent contractor of education services

Memberships: Oklahoma Council for Social Studies; Nation Council for Social Studies

Top issues: Education; heath care; quality jobs.

Ranking of issues: 1. Health. 1. Economy. 1. Education. 2. Children/youth. 3. Aging issues. 4. Taxes. 5. Environment. 6. Military downsizing. 7. Crime. 8. Homeland security.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

The essence of tribal sovereignty is self-government and the inherent right and responsibility to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the people. Tribal sovereignty extends to issues related to the tribe's land, citizens, and resources. Tribal sovereignty provides that each tribe may express its unique culture and history while also participating as citizens of the state and the nation. Tribes are to be respected as separate and unique entities, as nations, that are neither municipalities, counties, nor any other extension of a local, state, or federal government. Tribal sovereignty provides for a separateness that extends to special rights and responsibilities related to local, state, and federal laws. With 39 tribes located in the state of Oklahoma the issue of tribal sovereignty is significant to the shared history and to the future success of all the people who live here. Conflicts between tribes and the state, between tribes and the federal government must be addressed through respect and a strong commitment to collaboration.

As an Oklahoma state senator, I would work diligently to forge successful relationships and responsible agreements between the state and the Chickasaw Nation. The Tribal Gaming Compact is an excellent example of such an agreement, and one that I wholeheartedly support. As senator, I will respect and honor tribal sovereignty and advocate for the interests of Native American communities and their businesses.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

The recent economic development success of the Chickasaw Nation, and other tribes, is vital to the well being of this state. Because of tribal sovereignty, the Nation has revitalized a regional economy and has significantly improved the quality of life for its citizens. This has contributed to the economic well-being of many individuals in the state and will continue to develop services and infrastructure vital to the health and well-being of all of us. The state of Oklahoma has benefited from the rich cultural heritage related to the many Indian nations here and has a shared responsibility to preserve that heritage which is an integral part of Oklahoma identity. The nations should also benefit from this shared heritage, history, and future. As a history teacher, I always taught my students the importance of Oklahoma's native worldview and history. As the mother of four children who have Choctaw ancestors, I personally recognize the importance of opportunities to discover and celebrate cultural ancestry. I believe that the future success of all us who call Oklahoma home" is to respect and honor our history and our unique heritage; to protect our natural, cultural, and economic resources; and work collaboratively toward a healthier and brighter future for our children.

· R - Jonathan Nichols, 38, Norman, incumbent

Born: Not listed

Spouse: Tilitha

Children: Two children, 11, 1

Occupation: State senator

Church home: Journey Church, Norman

Education: B.A., English, Northeastern Oklahoma State University; Juris Doctorate, the University of Oklahoma

Previous offices: State senator for Dist. 15

Job/income: No response

Memberships: Norman Chamber of Commerce; Blanchard Chamber of Commerce

Top issues: Strong investment in education; a pro-business economy fueled by private commerce and uninhibited by government taxing.

Ranking of issues: 1. Health care. 1. Economy. 1. Education. 2. Taxes. 2. Aging issues. 2. Children/youth. 3. Crime. 3. Military downsizing. 4. Homeland security. 5. Environment.

Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

Dist 23: Partial Grady, partial Blaine, partial Caddo and partial Canadian

· D - Marilyn Feaver, 53, Chickasha

Born: Chickasha

Spouse: John

Children: Four children; ages 30, 29, 28, 27

Occupation: Professional

Church home: No response

Education: University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

Previous offices: None

Job/income: Chickasha Chamber of Commerce, Grady County; Econo

Memberships: No response

Top issues: Education funding; economy – creation and retention of jobs; energy, natural resources – water; health care – lack of health insurance; crime- escalating incarceration rates.

Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Health care. 3. Economy. 4. Children/youth. 5. Taxes. 6. Crime. 7. Environment. 8. Aging issues. 9. Homeland security. 10. Military downsizing.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

*1. **How would you define tribal sovereignty?***

Tribal sovereignty is an historic, legal and constitutional condition that defines a government-to-government relationship between the United States of America and federally recognized Indian tribes.

As it raises a complex set of issues bearing on state and federal authority, jurisdiction and taxation as to relate to Indian peoples, tribal sovereignty is poorly understood by many, if not most, Oklahoma citizens.

In its best and most useful form, tribal sovereignty provides the essential legal and administrative infrastructure absolutely necessary to the vital processes of self-government, and is the essential engine of self-reliance and personal and social growth.

*2. **Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.***

With the most diverse Native American population, and nearly the largest, in the United States, the impact on Oklahoma is enormous. If the value of all tribal assets, capital and productivity are included, it defines the status of the state's third largest industry.

It is imperative that our citizens understand tribal sovereignty as a major tool lending to Oklahoma's potential for social, cultural and economic development.

· R - Ron Justice, 58, Chickasha
Born: Watonga
Spouse: Darlene
Children: Three children; ages 38, 36, 34
Occupation: Retired
Church home: No response
Education: Associate degree, Cameron University; B.S., Oklahoma State University; M.S., Oklahoma State University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: No response
Memberships: Lions Club, Chickasha Chamber of Commerce, Grady County Alfalfa Association, Grady County Cattleman's Association, Grady County Minerals Owners Association.
Top issues: Worker's comp; tort reform; education; health care; state economy/ jobs
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Education. 3. Health care. 4. Crime. 5. Taxes. 6. Children/youth. 7. Aging issues. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

Dist 31: Partial Grady, Jefferson, partial Stephens, partial Comanche and Cotton

· D - Craig Hale, 51, Sterling
Born: Lawton
Spouse: Paula
Children: One child; age 25
Occupation: Self-employed
Church home: Sterling First Baptist
Education: No response
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Self-employed
Memberships: No response.
Top issues: Workers' comp reform; state budget; education; penal reform; economy
Ranking of issues: 1. Crime. 2. Education. 3. Taxes. 4. Economy. 5. Health care. 6. Military downsizing. 7. Children/youth. 8. Environment. 9. Aging issues. 10. Homeland security.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?
It means just what it says. Entities that are sovereign, such as the Chickasaw Nation, have never surrendered and are a Nation within a Nation. It also means that the Chickasaw Nation or any sovereign nation doesn't have to take crap from anybody.
2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.
I personally am more aware and informed of the Comanche Nation which has its tribal headquarters, a casino, and other entities located in my district. The economic impact of the Comanches and I'm sure all the tribes, is astounding in that many jobs, social programs and charities are benefiting from their prosperity.

· R - Don Barrington, 57, Lawton
Born: Pryor
Spouse: Jennifer
Children: two children; ages 33, 30
Occupation: Retired
Church home: First Baptist East
Education: Associate degree, municipal fire protection technology
Previous offices: None
Job/Income: Retired
Memberships: Charter member of First Baptist East, Lawton's Gideons International, Lawton Rotary West advisory board member, Army-Campers on Mission.
Top issues: No response
Ranking of issues: 1. Children/youth. 2. Education. 3. Aging issues. 4. Health care. 5. Military downsizing. 6. Economy. 7. Crime. 8. Homeland security. 9. Taxes. 10. Environment.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?
A group of people united by the tie of ancestry who bear the power and authority to govern themselves.
2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.
I know Oklahoma is tribal land by treaty, convent or contract. As for its impact, I am not sure at this time.

State House

Dist 20: Partial Bryan, Coal, Johnston, partial Pontotoc and Atoka
· D - Paul Roan, 61, Tishomingo, incumbent
Born: Ada
Spouse: Betty
Children: Three children; ages 39, 35, 28
Occupation: State representative, district 20
Church home: Calvary Baptist Church
Education: Stonewall High School, B.A. East Central University, master's degree, education, East Central University
Previous offices: State representative, district 20 (2000)
Job/income: State government
Memberships: Tishomingo Lions Club, Tishomingo Masonic Lodge, Atoka and Johnston Chambers of Commerce
Top issues: Continue to improve all areas of education; work to improve health care for all Oklahomans; continue to work on economic development especially in rural areas of the state.
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Health care. 3. Economy. 4. Aging issues. 5. Crime. 6. Children/ youth. 7. Homeland security. 8. Environment. 9. Military downsizing. 10. Taxes.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?
I see tribal sovereignty as the same as the USA and Oklahoman's dealings with foreign nations. Dealings by the state with the tribes should be either by compacts mutually agreed to by both parties.
2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.
I feel the above answer speaks to the impact to Oklahoma. The tribes and the state should work to insure their citizens and Oklahoma mutually benefit from their compacts or treaty.

· R - Tom Stephens, 59, Caney
Born: Casa Grade, Ariz.
Spouse: Not listed
Children: Three children; ages 38, 35, 33
Occupation: Small business owner
Church home: Ward Chapel Baptist Church
Education: High school diploma
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Self-employed
Memberships: Atoka Lions Club, Southern Oklahoma Water Alliance
Top issues: Economic development; improving infrastructure; Oklahoma water problems
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Taxes. 3. Education. 4. Children/youth. 5. Health care. 6. Homeland security. 7. Crime. 8. Aging issues. 9. Military downsizing. 10. Environment.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?
The right of the people to govern themselves.
2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.
Divisive

Dist 21: Partial Bryan
· D - John Carey, 34, Durant, incumbent – no opponent
Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?
Tribal sovereignty is the ability for a Tribal Nation to be self sufficient and re-

sponsible for their actions.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Although tribal sovereignty is what it is, we have been blessed with such a great community partner in the Chickasaw Nation. The impact is great to the people of this state.

Dist 22: Partial Garvin, partial McClain, Murray, partial Pontotoc and partial Cleveland

· D - Wes Hilliard, 30, Sulphur

Born: Pauls Valley
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: Adult education coordinator
Church home: First Baptist-Sulphur
Education: Sulphur High School, bachelor's degree, political science, Oklahoma State University, master's degree, education, East Central University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Southern Oklahoma Technology Center
Memberships: Sulphur and Davis Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, Kiwanis, Leadership Murray County, Boys and Girls Club Advisory Board.
Top issues: Education – public, higher, career technology; attract more jobs to rural Oklahoma; better pay for our teachers; protection of our natural resources.
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Economy. 3. Health care. 4. Taxes. 5. Children/youth. 6. Environment. 7. Aging issues. 8. Crime. 9. Homeland security. 10. Military downsizing.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty refers to the status of federally recognized tribes within the United States which have established legal doctrines that presumes them to be dependent sovereign nations. Essentially, tribal sovereignty gives the tribes the ability to govern themselves separate from the federal government. It refers to the inherent right or power to govern.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Tribal sovereignty makes a huge positive impact on Oklahoma. We are fortunate to live in a state where we have so many outstanding Indian tribes. The economic and societal impacts that the tribes have on Oklahoma are significant. They are constantly investing in Oklahoma through their businesses and enterprises. Tribal Governments employ thousands of people across Oklahoma. These employees spend money in our local stores, which invests back into our community through tax dollars. Numerous social programs are offered by the different tribal governments to help their citizens receive an education or earn training in order to receive a job. They are constantly working to improve the quality of life of their citizens, which in turn improves the quality of life for all Oklahomans. Tribal Governments in Oklahoma are our partners for a brighter future.

· R - Preston Edgar, 30, Sulphur

Born: Sulphur
Spouse: Kristy
Children: None listed
Occupation: Museum director and youth minister
Church home: Dolberg Baptist
Education: Sulphur High School, Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Goddard Youth Foundation
Memberships: Kiwanis Club
Top issues: Tort reform; health care
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Aging issues. 3. Crime. 4. Economy. 5. Children/youth. 6. Homeland security. 7. Taxes. 8. Health care. 9. Military

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

I feel that Tribal sovereignty is the independent right of the Tribe to govern all aspects of the tribe.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

I feel that tribal sovereignty helps the economic and social aspects of the areas of Oklahoma that the tribe is affiliated.

Dist 25: Partial McClain, partial Pontotoc, partial Pottawatomie and partial Hughes

· D - Bob Plunk, 72, Ada, incumbent

Born: Ada
Spouse: Wanita
Children: One child; age 40
Occupation: Business owner
Church home: First Baptist
Education: Attended University of Oklahoma and East Central – Ada
Previous offices: Town council, Oklahoma House of Representatives (since 1994).
Job/income: Self
Memberships: Masonic Lodge
Top issues: Economy; rural economic development
Ranking of issues: 1. Health care. 2. Economy. 3. Education

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

A self determined, self governed entity that is free to rule itself, not subject to the control of another.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Just in my lifetime the impact of tribal sovereignty in Oklahoma has been high. What the Chickasaws and other tribal governments have accomplished in the areas of: educating-economic infrastructure and cultural arenas has resulted in a citizenry that is: healthier, happier, better educated, and affluent than ever before in Oklahoma.

· R - Ken Black, 25, Ada

Born: Paris, Texas
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: No response
Church home: No response
Education: No response
Previous offices: None
Job/Income: Solo Cup
Memberships: No response
Top issues: No response
Ranking of issues: No response
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

Dist 42: Partial Garvin, partial Grady, partial McClain and partial Cleveland

· D- Patrick Grimmett, 34, Pauls Valley

Born: Pauls Valley
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: Banker
Church home: First Presbyterian Church, Pauls Valley
Education: B.A., The University of Oklahoma
Previous office: None
Job/income: Pauls Valley National Bank
Memberships: No response
Top issues: No response
Ranking of issues: 1. Health care. 2. Education. 3. Economy. 4. Children/youth. 5. Taxes. 6. Crime. 7. Homeland security. 8. Aging issues. 9. Military downsizing. 10. Environment.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Under the American legal system, Indian tribes have sovereign powers separate and independent from the federal and state governments. To me the very essence of tribal sovereignty is the ability to self-govern and protect the health, safety and welfare of the people within the tribes own territory.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

The tribes of Oklahoma have created and continue to create thousands of jobs, many of my friends and customers are employed by the Chickasaw Nation.

I see firsthand the contribution the tribe makes to District 42's economy. Also I applaud both our state government and the tribal governments for working together on State Question 712. Not only does SQ712 help save thousands of jobs, it will put roughly 70 into education. I think it is very encouraging for the future of Oklahoma.

· R - Lisa Billy, 37, Purcell

Born: Purcell
Spouse: Phillip
Children: three children; ages 10, 7, 2
Occupation: Teacher
Church home: Glorieta Baptist Church
Education: B.A., Northeastern State University; master's degree, education, The University of Oklahoma

Previous offices: Chickasaw Nation legislator
Job/income: The University of Oklahoma
Memberships: Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, Oklahoma Home and Community Education.
Top issues: Economy; reducing taxes; education; health care, military protection
Ranking of issues: No response
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

Dist 46: Partial McClain and partial Cleveland
· D- Dottie Caldwell, 54, Norman
Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

I understand tribal sovereignty to mean that the tribes enjoy a nation-to-nation relationship with the United States and therefore the State of Oklahoma has only limited jurisdiction in Indian Country.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma

The State of Oklahoma will conduct business with the tribes through compact negotiations in the spirit of the US Constitution, federal law, and Oklahoma's Enabling Act.

· R - Doug Miller, 49, Norman, incumbent
Born: Ardmore
Spouse: Not listed
Children: Two children; ages 17, 15
Occupation: Builder/realtor
Church home: First Southern Baptist Church
Education: B.A., University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: State House of Representatives (1994 to present).
Job/income: Self
Memberships: Norman, Noble and Newcastle Chambers of Commerce; Civil Air Patrol; Leadership Oklahoma
Top issues: Education; revision of tax code; health care; workers' compensation
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Taxes. 3. Children/youth. 4. Health care. 5. Economy. 6. Crime. 7. Aging issues. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty is the right and ability of a Tribal Nation to govern themselves and their citizenry. The United States Constitution sets forth this right and privilege. It is the opportunity for the tribal nation to build their infrastructure, develop their economies, and provide for their members to help themselves.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

We all live in the State of Oklahoma, and share the many benefits and blessings. Tribal nations join hands with their neighbors to build communities, schools and neighborhoods. The impact is shared resources and the common good of all the citizens of Oklahoma. I am proud to be a member and citizen of the Cherokee Nation. The word that comes to mind is "teamwork." Together we can build a more prosperous Oklahoma.

Dist 47: Partial Grady and partial Canadian
· D- Angie Jeffries, 40, Chickasha
Born: Habor Beach, Mich.
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: Civic volunteer
Church home: First Baptist Church
Education: Bachelor's degree, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
Previous offices: None
Job/income: No response
Memberships: Kiwanis, Chickasha Area Arts Council, Festival of Lights, Women's Service Center, YMCA, Friends of the Library
Top issues: Improving health care accessibility; greater access to educational opportunities; bring more jobs to our area
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Health care. 3. Economy. 4. Children/youth. 5. Aging issues. 6. Crime. 7. Taxes. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal governance should be affirmed and respected and the federal and state government should not work to diminish the rights of Tribal governments. Tribal sovereignty should include, the entire nation recognizing and affirming the governance authority for tribes and encouraging economic development opportunities on Tribal land. Tribes have the authority and power to exercise civil regulatory powers, including taxation within their territory, the power to adjudicate all civil disputes, and the power to enforce and try violations of criminal laws arising within their territory. The Chickasaw Nation's sovereignty should extend to all places and persons within its Indian country. States should not exercise civil or criminal authority, powers or jurisdiction within Indian country unless clearly granted by an Indian Treaty or a voluntary agreement between the state and the Chickasaw Nation. The state should evaluate all matters pertaining to tribes in a manner that is fitting to the unique political, cultural and economic needs of tribal governments.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Tribal power has been an inherent right from time immemorial. Tribes have the same powers as the federal and state governments to regulate their internal affairs. History shows that tribes have been economically devastated by federal and state relationships. Without tribal sovereignty and the financial means to exercise powers of self-government, tribes in Oklahoma will not survive as Indian Nations. Oklahoma Tribes have provided a great boost to the Oklahoma economy with their diverse business enterprises. That must be protected and respected by our state government. Indian Nations must be honored and given the sovereignty that rightly belongs to each Tribe. A state cannot limit the powers of a Tribe.

R- Susan Winchester, 54, Chickasha, incumbent
Born: Chickasha
Spouse: Jim
Children: One child; age 8
Occupation: Trainer/consultant
Church home: First Presbyterian, Chickasha
Education: Master's degree, human relations, University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: House of Representatives
Job/income: Self-employed
Memberships: Rotary; Chickasha, Tuttle, Mustang Chambers of Commerce, Leadership Oklahoma, Foundation for Excellence, Grady County Economic Development Council
Top issues: No response
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Education. 3. Health care. 4. Taxes. 5. Crime. 6. Aging issues. 7. Children/youth. 8. Military downsizing. 9. Environment. 10. Homeland security.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty is the right to be recognized as a "distinct, individual, political community" and to exercise powers of self-government.

2 Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

On becoming a state, Oklahoma agreed in the Enabling Act to follow federal law in regard to the Indian tribes and their lands.

Dist 48: Partial Carter
· D - Daron Henry, age not listed, Ardmore
Born: Oklahoma City
Spouse: Rhonda
Children: Two children; ages 2, 18
Occupation: Police officer
Church home: First Baptist Church – Ardmore
Education: Bachelor's degree, University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Ardmore Police Department
Memberships: Fraternal Order of Police, OU Alumni Association, Co-president of the OU Club of Ardmore, Masonic Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star
Top issues: Education; senior citizen's benefits; jobs; health care
Ranking of Issues: 1. Children/ youth. 2. Education. 3. Health care. 4. Economy. 5. Aging issues. 6. Taxes. 7. Environment. 8. Crime. 9. Homeland security. 10. Military downsizing.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

There is nothing more important to Indian governments and people than tribal sovereignty predates both the federal and state governments. Especially, this means that Indian governments have inherent sovereignty which is not derived from any other government, but rather from the rich and indigenous culture of the Indian people.

Therefore, I define tribal sovereignty as the ability to self-govern and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people within the territorial boundaries of each Indian Nation. Native Americans are a proud and distinct people.

Tribal sovereignty is at the core of recognizing, appreciating and respecting their place in our common Nation's history and future.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma?

It is difficult to describe the overall positive impact of tribal sovereignty on Oklahoma without being terrible lengthy. In sum, tribal sovereignty impacts Oklahoman in two affirmative ways – culturally and economically, with the two often overlapping.

Because of its Indian history and population, Oklahoma is considered to be at the center of Indian culture. It is impossible to separate the cultural interplay between Indian tribes and our state. Oklahoma owes much of its spirited reputation to the gifts and blessings of its Indian heritage. Without tribal sovereignty, much of the Indian cultural contribution to Oklahoma would not have been possible. Projects such as the construction of the new Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City are further proof these valuable cultural contributions will continue in the future as a result of tribal sovereignty.

Tribal sovereignty also betters Oklahoma in a financial sense. The business enterprises of Indian tribes create jobs and stimulate the overall state economy in countless ways. Tribal sovereignty provides the foundation upon which this economic stimulus rests.

Oklahoma is a cross-roads in its history. The correct turn at this historic cross-roads will allow Oklahoma to not only remain great, but also to truly begin to recognize its even greater potential. Now, more than ever, tribal sovereignty can help Oklahoma achieve its destiny.

The path has been cleared for Oklahomans to vote on the Tribal Gaming Compact in November. If it passes, the tribal governments and the Oklahoma government will become partners of sorts in the financial success of Indian gaming. This compact will provide tremendous financial assistance to our state's suffering horse industry and our need for more education funding, while at the same time ensuring the continued history and success of tribal sovereignty.

· R - Greg Piatt, 41, Ardmore, incumbent
Did not complete *The Oklahoman* questionnaire
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

Dist 49: Partial Carter, Love, Marshall
· D - Terry Hyman, 52, Leon
Born: Gainesville, Texas
Spouse: Linda
Children: None listed
Occupation: Farmer
Church home: Leon Baptist Church
Education: Bachelor's degree, agriculture education; master's degree, political science, Oklahoma State University
Previous offices: Love County Commissioner, Leon School board member
Job/income: Farmer
Memberships: National Rifle Association, Democratic Party
Top issues: Education; economic development
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Economy. 3. Health care. 4. Aging issues. 5. Taxes. 6. Crime. 7. Children/youth. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

· R - Wanda Cruson, 75, Kingston
Born: Not listed
Spouse: James
Children: Two children
Occupation: No response
Church home: All Christian Church
Education: Bachelor's and master's degrees, education, East Central University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: No response
Memberships: Oklahoma Concert of Prayer; State Committee of the Republican Party; Southern Oklahoma Water Alliance; Kingston Ministerial Alliance; Oklahoma Education Association
Top issues: Issues related to morality – as traditional marriage; more jobs; workers' compensation reform – to create better jobs, more state revenue without increased taxes.
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Taxes. 3. Homeland security. 4. Children/youth. 5. Education. 6. Military downsizing. 7. Crime. 8. Health care. 9. Aging issues. 10. Environment.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty provides authority and responsibility for the laws and regulations of tribal members and lands in accordance with treaties.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

A large portion of the people in Oklahoma are Native Americans. The tribes having their own government, assisting the members through their being a part of the governing, through educational assistance, health provisions, and purchasing homes is very helpful for the state.

Dist 50: Partial Stephens, partial Comanche and partial Cotton
· D - Jari Askins, 51, Duncan, incumbent – no opponent
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

Dist 51: Partial Grady, Jefferson, partial McClain, partial Stephens and partial Cotton
· D - Ray McCarter, 57, Marlow, incumbent
Born: Duncan
Spouse: Kathy
Children: Two children; ages 39, 35
Occupation: Retired educator
Church home: Heritage Oaks Nazarene Church
Education: Bachelor's degree, master's degree, education, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; doctorate, University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: State House
Job/income: No response
Memberships: No response
Top issues: Rural; education; economy
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Health Care. 3. Economy. 4. Taxes. 5. Aging issues. 6. Children/youth. 7. Crime. 8. Homeland security. 9. Military downsizing. 10. Environment.
Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire
1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty was given in return for agreements to move to Indian Territory. This concession granted the Tribes the right of self-government by the members of the Tribe, independent of higher authority or influence.

2. *Please describe its impact on Oklahoma?*

Tribal sovereignty commands attention from the state government. It puts the tribes in a position of great influence that can only be compromised with negotiated agreements. This can have a positive or negative impact, depending on the willingness of each entity to compromise.

· R - Corey Holland, 34, Marlow
Born: Duncan
Spouse: Kim
Children: Two children; ages 11, 3
Occupation: Teacher
Church home: First Baptist Church of Marlow
Education: Bachelor's degree, Oklahoma Baptist University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Marlow Public Schools
Memberships: No response
Top issues: No response
Ranking of issues: No response
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

Dist 56: Partial Grady, partial Caddo and partial Canadian
· D - Jason Glidewell, 28, Anadarko
Born: Chickasha
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: Assistant district attorney
Church home: First United Methodist Church, Anadarko
Education: Anadarko High School; B.A., University of Oklahoma; law degree; University of Oklahoma
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Caddo County Assistant District Attorney
Memberships: Oklahoma Bar Association, Oklahoma District Attorneys Association, Association of Oklahoma Narcotics Enforcers, Anadarko Chamber of Commerce, Anadarko Rotary Club
Top issues: Maintaining a quality education system; improving our economy; creating jobs; access to affordable health care; maintaining pubic safety.
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Economy. 3. Health care. 4. Children/youth. 5. Crime. 6. Aging issues. 7. Homeland security. 8. Military downsizing. 9.

Taxes. 10. Environment.

Chickasaw Nation Questionnaire

1. How would you define tribal sovereignty?

Tribal sovereignty is the guarantee by our Constitution that Native Americans will have the right to self-determination. This guarantee ensures that Native people will, at the very least, have an opportunity to maintain their respective cultures through means designed and practiced by Native Americans themselves. Through this Constitutional guarantee Native Americans have been able to provide economic opportunities, education, and healthcare.

2. Please describe its impact on Oklahoma.

Tribal governments have grown to be a tremendous asset to Oklahoma in the field of social services, job creation, education, housing, infrastructure, and healthcare. Tribal governments provide legal services, law enforcement, drug rehabilitation, child advocacy, cultural development, and juvenile programs that all fill a need that may not otherwise be provided by the State or private industry. In addition, tribal governments have access to alternative revenue sources and have been quick to share these resources and partner with local governments. This is particularly true in regards to infrastructure upgrades like highway development, bridge repair, and construction.

Among the greatest impacts tribal governments have made is in the field of education. Tribal governments are quick to invest in young people seeking additional education as well as willing to invest in satellite and tele-cast facilities to bring University courses to rural areas. Many of these programs would not even be made available to Oklahomans without the tribal governments' involvement.

Still, greater opportunities exist for partnerships with tribal governments so long as the State is willing to reach out. Tribal governments are not something to be feared and certainly should not be shunned. In fact, the State and tribal governments should forge a closer partnership and realize that we all have the same goal—a better more prosperous Oklahoma.

· R - Phil Richardson, 61, Minco

Born: Pocasset
Spouse: Janalee
Children: Three children; ages 35, 32, 29
Occupation: Farmer/veterinarian
Church home: Hazel Dell Baptist
Education: Pocasset High School, B.S. and D.V.M., Oklahoma State University
Previous offices: Minco School Board, Canadian Valley Technology Center
Job/income: Self-employed
Memberships: Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association; Oklahoma Pork Council, board of directors; OSU Alumni Association; Minco American Legion; Pocasset Masonic Lodge
Top issues: Pro-business; worker's compensation reform. Tax issues; tort reform
Ranking of issues: 1. Economy. 2. Taxes. 3. Health care. 4. Education. 5. Aging issues. 6. Children/youth. 7. Crime. 8. Homeland security. 9. Environment. 10. Military downsizing.
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire

Dist 65: Partial Grady, partial Caddo and partial Comanche

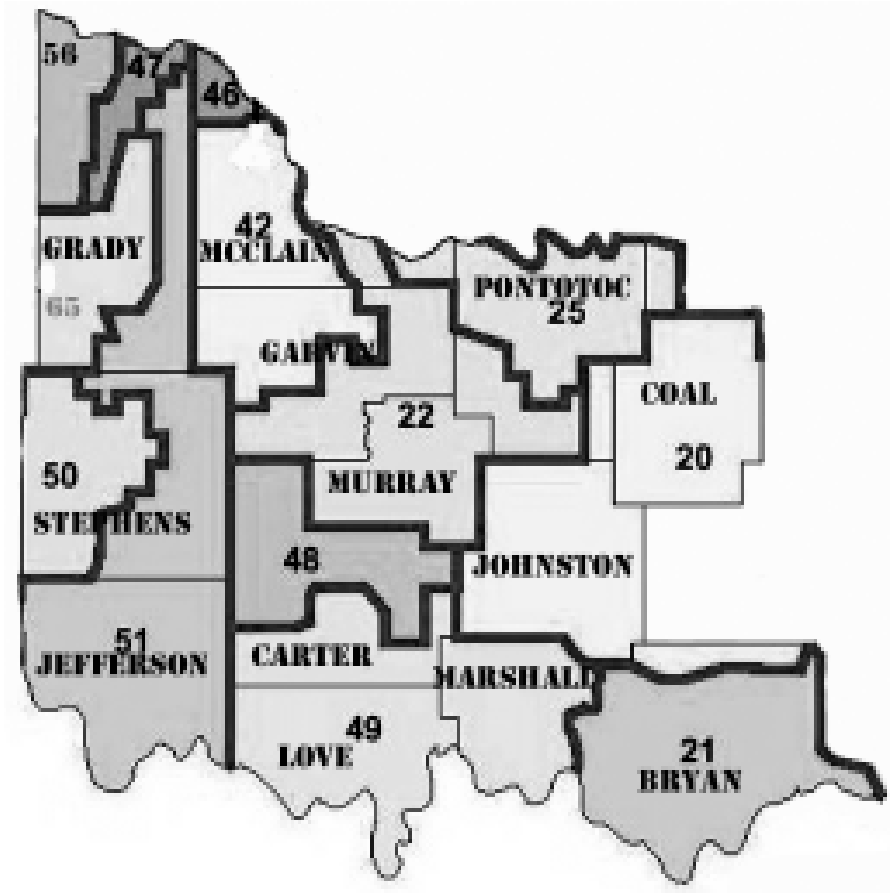
· D - Joe Dorman, 33, Rush Springs, incumbent

Born: Burbank, Calif.
Spouse: Not listed
Children: None listed
Occupation: Research consultant
Church home: First United Methodist Church
Education: Rush Springs High School; B.A., political science, Oklahoma State University; master's degree classes, University of Central Oklahoma
Previous offices: None
Job/income: No response
Memberships: Lions Club, Farmers Union, Farm Bureau, National Rifle Association, American Institute of Parliamentarians, Central Oklahoma Parenthood Association
Top issues: Greater access to educational opportunities; health care and jobs for all Oklahomans; maintain fiscal responsibility through performance audits on state agencies.
Ranking of issues: 1. Education. 2. Health care. 3. Economy. 4. Military downsizing. 5. Taxes. 6. Aging issues. 7. Children/youth. 8. Crime. 9. Homeland security. 10. Environment.
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

· R - Debbie Thompson, 47, Cyril

Born: Louisiana
Spouse: David Thompson
Children: Four children; ages 25, 22, 22, 14
Occupation: Teacher
Church home: Cyril Full Gospel Church
Education: B.S., elementary education, Cameron University
Previous offices: None
Job/income: Cyril Elementary School
Memberships: Town of Cyril Historical Society
Top issues: Excellence in education; compassion in children and youth services; smaller government; traditional family values
Raking of issues: 1. Taxes. 1. Health care. 1. Economy. 1. Aging issues. 1. Environment. 1. Education. 1. Crime. 1. Children/youth. 1. Homeland security. 1. Military downsizing.
Did not respond to Chickasaw Nation questionnaire.

Oklahoma House districts



Oklahoma Senate districts

Rep. Cole 'thankful the faith was kept' by Chickasaws

U.S. Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)

Gov. Bill Anoatubby

U.S. Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) is a Chickasaw man from Moore, Okla., and one of the few Native representatives in the U.S. Congress. His mother, the late Helen Cole, was a longtime activist in Oklahoma and served 10 years as a state senator. Mrs. Cole is also a member of the Chickasaw Hall of Fame.

Rep. Cole is completing his first term in Congress and is seeking reelection.

"A Tribute to Tom Cole" was hosted by the Chickasaw Nation on Aug. 12 at the Pontotoc Agriplex. Rep. Cole, along with wife Ellen and son Mason, attended the tribute. Approximately 800 Chickasaws and guests attended the dinner event, and all enjoyed an evening of entertainment and presentations.

"I want to thank my family," Rep. Cole said, "and not just my immediate family, but also my Chickasaw family. My only regret is that my mother Helen is not here tonight."

Mrs. Cole died unexpectedly in April.

Rep. Cole also spoke of his great aunt Te Ata, the celebrated Chickasaw actress and dancer who was an unofficial goodwill ambassador for the tribe for many years.

"Te Ata, a remarkable woman in every way, loved her people," Rep. Cole said. "She loved her heritage, and she made sure our culture stayed alive during a dark period for us."

Rep. Cole's great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather each served as treasurer of the Chickasaw Nation. And each, Rep. Cole said, witnessed the twists of federal Indian policy.

"Traveling around today with (Chickasaw Enterprises president) Brian Campbell and seeing all the extraordinary things the Chickasaws are doing, I thought of my great-grandfather," Rep. Cole said. "He would have been officing at the capitol on the second floor at the time of attempted liquidation. How proud he would be of the Chickasaw people. How amazed he would be of their tenacity and their toughness and their willingness to soldier through the dark times and come back together and keep their collective identity."

The persistence of the Chickasaw people was a pervasive theme in Rep. Cole's remarks.

"I want to thank you on his behalf and for all the others like him in that generation that went through so much, as preceding generations had gone through," Rep. Cole said. "We are thankful that the faith was kept, that the flame was lit, that the memory never died, that the people stayed together, as a people and have risen and are going through this extraordinary renaissance which Governor Anoatubby and his very capable people, and Lieutenant Governor Keel and the tribal legislators and the tribal employees are so central to. They, too, reflect the spirit of the people from whom we all come. And they are a remarkable band of people. A people who have a great and rich and powerful heritage."

The pain of the Removal, and the deep wounds of the Dawes Commission, were also reflected on by Rep. Cole.

"From the tragedy of Removal, to the efforts to reconstitute and rebuild, to the treachery of the Dawes Commission," Rep. Cole said. "Treachery is the right word for it, I think. Some call it misguided philantrophy. I don't. It was treachery. But the people overcame that. And our society has grown beyond that."

The recent efforts by anti-tribal sovereignty groups were also a focus of the talk.

"There are some who would still divide, and I am so proud of my people because they've kept their identity, but they don't divide," Rep. Cole said. "They are Chickasaws and Oklahomans and Americans all at one time and they extend that privilege to others. There are those who would divide, and that needs to never, ever, ever happen again."

The Congressman closed with, "I will do everything I can to live up to the wonderful honor and privilege you have given me tonight.

Contributed by Chickasaw Times editor Tom Bolitho.

Voter registration, continued from page 1

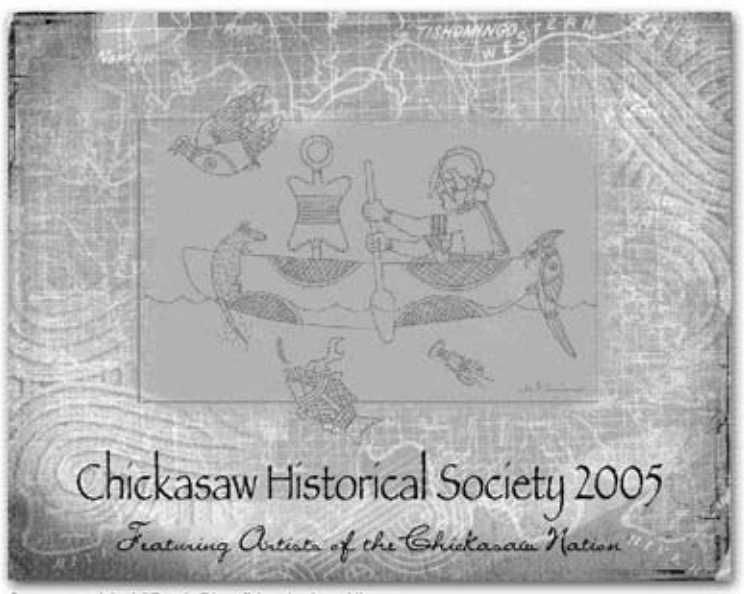
You then mail your application to the Oklahoma State Election Board, P.O. Box 53156, Oklahoma City, OK 73152. If you have questions, call the board office at (405) 521-2391, or call Chickasaw tribal registrar Gina Brown at (580) 436-2603.

That's it! Registering and voting are easy. Once your application is processed, you will receive your voter registration card in the mail. Your card will list your name, address, political affiliation and your polling place. Simply show up at your polling place on Nov. 2 and vote. The poll worker will ask your name, then will look it up on the voter roll. You will then be issued a ballot to complete.

For voters who believe they may no longer be on the voter list, re-registering must also take place by October 8. Voters are purged from voter lists by county election boards if they have have not voted in a number of years. Simply call your local election board office (located at your county courthouse) or the state election board to confirm your status.

If you are currently registered but unsure of your polling place, contact your local election board office.

2005 Chickasaw Artist Calendar



Cover art titled "Earth Diver" by Joshua Hinson

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Jerry Underwood
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Daniel Howard
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Chickasaw Historical Society

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Gov. Anoatubby praises Cole for work in Congress

Gov. Bill Anoatubby, during the Aug. 12 "Tribute to Tom Cole," presented the Chickasaw Congressman with a unique and beautiful gorget, which featured a stylized mask, feathers and beadwork. The gorget represented the decorative throat and chest armor once worn by Chickasaw warriors.

Gov. Anoatubby also had kind words for Rep. Cole.

"Tom works continuously to create a better life for all of us, Americans, Oklahomans and Chickasaws," Gov. Anoatubby said. "He is willing to take a stand on the issues, whether it is popular or unpopular. I believe that Tom Cole does what he believes is right, and what is right for the people of the district he represents, and for all Americans."

Gov. Anoatubby made abundant mention of Rep. Cole's Chickasaw activist mother, the late Helen Cole.

"Helen Cole had a real impact on all of us, and I believe there is something inside of Tom, a pride, that has been instilled in him by his mother," Gov. Anoatubby said. "It is gratifying to have someone who shares the commitment to improving the lives of our people."

Aldridge meeting of 1959 became landmark event

By RICHARD GREEN
Contributing Writer

Chickasaw history contains a host of landmarks both east and west of the Mississippi River. Many are relatively well known, but some that should be among the most notable are virtually unknown.

One reason is that the historical moment of note was brief; another is that the participants didn't know for years that what they did had become historically important.

Both reasons apply to one event that occurred in the fall of 1959 when a group of Chickasaw men interested in reviving tribal government met at the Aldridge Hotel (now the Aldridge Building) in downtown Ada.

Throughout the 1950s, these elders had been engaged in an unsuccessful grass-roots movement to unseat the Chickasaw governor, Floyd Maytubby, whom they felt had been unresponsive to tribal members living in the old Chickasaw Nation. Maytubby had been appointed to the position by President Franklin Roosevelt after the death of Governor Douglas Johnston in 1939. Maytubby had been reappointed routinely every two years.

The elders who showed up at the Aldridge included only one with political experience and none with connections. The Reverend Jess Humes had been an advisor to former Gov. Douglas Johnston. Others present were Abijah (Ah-bye-gee) Colbert and probably Reverend Jonas Imotichy (Immo-tah-chee). For several years, they and other elders had been looking for a younger Chickasaw man with leadership qualities who would agree to direct their movement. In the past, they had identified some possible candidates, but either the man was not available or the wrong man was available.

At the Aldridge, they were meeting with a 34-year-old encyclopedia salesman from Oklahoma City, Overton James. They knew that James was a college-educated Chickasaw man of great promise, and that he was interested in their grass-roots movement. On Jess Humes's say-so, they were ready to consolidate the leadership of their movement in James's hands. A few years before, James's mother, Vinnie May, had married Jess Humes, and he and the younger man had had several talks about the tribe's future. But even so, none of the participants was sure that any kind of deal would be struck that day.

The elders took their time. They told James that their number one objective was to secure the right from the federal government to elect their own tribal leader. For a decade, they felt their number one obstacle had been Gov. Floyd Maytubby. But since Maytubby wasn't violating any laws or behaving in a scandalous fashion, they had no grounds to ask the federal government to remove him.

They told James that whenever the governor's appointment was about to expire, they had enlisted Chickasaws to write letters requesting the right to have a tribal referendum, like the Choctaws. But the federal officials always pointed out that the circumstances were different. A sizeable majority of Choctaws supported their chief, Jimmy Belvin. In the eyes of the government, the Chickasaw approach amounted to "anybody but Maytubby," which these officials found unacceptable.

The elders told James that over the years Maytubby had become even less responsive to them. And they recounted the final straw, which had just happened recently. Maytubby had finally accepted an invitation to attend one of their Chickasaw community meetings at Seeley Chapel, near Tishomingo. Maytubby told Humes that he, as governor, would pay for the *Pashofa* (traditional meal of cracked corn and pork) to accompany the meeting.

But Maytubby had shown up late, stayed for less than half an hour, said nothing of substance and then reneged on his promise to pay for the *Pashofa*. According to James's mother, Vinnie May Humes, "He put one dirty little dollar on the plate and left. My husband, Jess, regarded that as unforgivable behavior."

After that insult, the split between the elders and Maytubby became a chasm.

Now was the time to act, they told James. But they were getting old and lacked the vitality to lead a vigorous grass-roots movement. So the elders offered Overton James the mantle (or yoke) of leadership.

"I said I would do it if I had their active support," James recalled. "We would have quarterly community meetings throughout the Chickasaw Nation, find out what's on people's minds and ask for their support to build on this grass-roots movement. I said that if our organization got big and active enough, the federal government wouldn't be able to roll us over or ignore us. But, I told the elders it would be all uphill. Maytubby obviously had the support of the powerful people who had kept him there for twenty years.

Caught up in the emotion, James told the elders that he "would be willing to commit up to ten years to the effort" (trying to replace Maytubby as governor).

With that, everybody solemnly shook hands, and Rev. Humes closed the meeting with a benediction in Chickasaw. In the tribe's long history, this was the beginning of a new chapter. Four years later, Overton James was appointed governor of the Chickasaw Nation. He served from 1963 to 1987.

rgreen26@cox.net

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Language, art, historic markers

Chickasaw Historical Society promotes many projects

The Chickasaw Historical Society (CHS) is an organization that promotes and preserves Chickasaw history, culture, and genealogy. This is an article that tells briefly some of the CHS projects and to seek donations for the Oklahoma Historical Society.

A Board of thirteen volunteer members in monthly meetings administers the Chickasaw Historical Society. Board members are confirmed by the Chickasaw Legislature. The current officers are Chairman Kennedy Brown, Vice-Chairman Overton "Buck" Cheadle, Secretary Chenena Roach, and Treasurer Pat Woods. CHS Membership costs only $20/year. Members receive four copies a year of the Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture. University of Oklahoma History PROFESSOR S. Matthew DeSpain edits the Journal. Striving for higher quality articles about Chickasaws, the Journal will be awarding prizes in three categories of writers.

Some of the CHS projects include co-sponsoring an illustrated 2004 Calendar of Chickasaw Artists. CHS and the Art Show Committee had a gala fete at the Chickasaw Capitol last October, where the featured artists autographed the beautiful, high-quality calendars for patrons. The calendars were so well received that CHS has begun work on an even better 2005 Artist Calendar.

CHS preserves Chickasaw History by different special projects such as self-publishing the Chickasaw First Primer, written by Jesse & Vinnie Humes (mother of Board member Chenena Roach). This is a Children's Picture Book with names in English and Chickasaw. CHS also sponsored a CD Record of Church Hymns sung in the Chickasaw language by members of the Boiling Spring Church near Lula, OK. We also made available an interactive computer disc; feed words in English and get back Chickasaw words spoken by a Native Speaker. Fewer Elders can speak the language correctly, so this is a valuable asset to any library. In March, the family of Mrs. Humes donated the original manuscript of the Chickasaw to English Dictionary. CHS has approved a project to produce and publish a series of Children's books from a collection of Chickasaw stories.

Another way that CHS preserves history is to erect red granite markers of significant tribal events. Eight granite markers have been erected to date. Four honored historic individuals: Gov. Johnston, Te Ata, Chief Tishomingo and a major league ballplayer "Monk" Moore. One marker is at Seeley Chapel, an important site where the New Tribe was organized. There is another marker for the bell at the Chickasaw Capitol and another for the Great Tree of Peace. A ninth marker has just been erected to commemorate one of the last tribal Stickball games between the Chickasaw and Choctaw teams that occurred in 1903 before Statehood. This location is seven miles east of Ada on county road to the buffalo ranch. The Official Dedication Ceremony date has not been set. The old games were played with ferocity and that last ball game was shutdown by US Marshals and Chickasaw Lighthorsemen. No game since has been played this rough. To give Chickasaws a good view, CHS sponsored a stickball game demonstration game last June at Kullihoma during an Elders Reunion. Special Team T-Shirts were made for both the Chickasaw and Choctaw team players. On that date, a terrible thunderstorm didn't delay play even though players sometimes fell and slid fifty feet on their backs in the mud. This year, a Chickasaw group of Stickball players practiced on weekends to prepare for another Stickball game at the Elders Reunion at Kullihoma on Saturday, June 26th. Flash Report of the Game results: Chickasaws-5 and Choctaws –1. Team-shirts were again sponsored by CHS. Believing that significant history must be written and preserved, an article has been written about Stickball Play before Oklahoma Statehood, which tells about the Kullihoma event and names the players on both 2003 teams. The article is to be published in the Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture. By joining the CHS now, you will be on the mailing list to receive the journal describing the stickball game.

A 10th granite marker is now planned for the Boiling Spring Church site east of Lula. The name of the early church came with the Choctaws from Mississippi. This was where Chickasaws met to discuss the formation of the Chickasaw Nation in 1856. Details are yet to be resolved. As a practice, the markers that are erected are not about individuals (or Churches), but important tribal events.

We have all read in the newspapers about the new building under construction near the State Capitol for the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS). Charitable donations nationwide have dropped during the recent economic recession. Obviously, Chickasaw History in intertwined with Oklahoma History. CHS has already made a donation to OHS. As a challenge, the Kerr Foundation has offered to MATCH any donation that CHS makes to the OHS. Donations must be received no later than November 1, 2004 to qualify for the challenge. Therefore, we believe this is a wonderful time to tell the readers of the Chickasaw Times to help us take advantage of this challenge to help Oklahoma Historical Society became even better. This is not one of those donations where a middleman takes out a big chunk for himself. All of the donations, 100%, go to Oklahoma Historical Society.

Chickasaw Nation has an established policy (02-001) to ensure that bequests and donations made to the tribe are acknowledged and where applicable Internal Revenue Service (IRS) forms are filed. The procedure is that the Governor will officially acknowledge gifts. Any gift in excess of $250 shall receive an official form that meets IRS guidelines. Bigger gifts such as land or other property valued in excess of $5,000 will be acknowledged by IRS Form 8283 – if the donor has filled out the form. Any unrestricted donation goes to the general fund of the tribe. Now this is the important part. A restricted donation shall be deposited in the Headquarters Fund and appropriate controls established to ensure the gift is used in the manner specified by the donor. We are asking cash donations made to Chickasaw Historical Society but specifying at the bottom of the check that the purpose is for *The Oklahoma Historical Society.* All contributors will be named in future issues of the Chickasaw Times, unless an anonymous contribution is preferred. This is a convenient time to add $20 to join the Chickasaw Historical Society. Your name as a new member will be published in the next issue of the Journal.

Chickasaw art and culture featured

Joanna Underwood signs the Chickasaw Historical Society's 2005 Artists Calendar for Susie Johnston at the Jacobson House. Chickasaw Art and Culture was showcased at the five-week event hosted by the Jacobson House in Norman. Both Joanna and Susie create pottery.

Chickasaw art and culture was showcased at the Jacobson House throughout August and September.

James Adair and the Chickasaws, Part IV–Conclusion

Sketches of Chickasaw Village Life circa 1760

By RICHARD GREEN
Contributing Writer

In his 1775 book, History of American Indians, English trader James Adair wrote extensively about Chickasaw culture. His information was based on discussions and personal observations experienced while trading and living with the Chickasaw periodically between 1744 and 1768.

While some of his descriptions of Chickasaw life are full of detail, other aspects leave much to be desired, often raising more questions than answers. A good example is Adair's only account of the location of the tribal settlements. He wrote that the Chickasaws in 1720 lived in villages in four nearly contiguous, elongated settlements. He also provided the approximate land area of three of the settlements and the distance of each of them from the tribe's fourth settlement, which he designated as their "present towns."

In other words, that reference to "present towns" suggests, but does not state, that the Chickasaw no longer lived in the other three settlements by the time he was writing his book in the 1760s. These conjectures are strengthened by combining archaeological and documentary evidence. That means that between roughly 1720 and 1760, the Chickasaw had consolidated from four settlement areas into one. The reason was self-defense; the French and their Indian allies (principally the Choctaw), were dedicated to exterminating the Chickasaw, a small tribe, through a more or less continuous war of attrition.*

This context is important to understanding Adair's account of the Chickasaw. Knowing context partially explains why Adair wrote so much on wars and warriors, the subject of Part II of this series. Furthermore, knowing that the Chickasaw were more or less constantly under attack during this period explains why his descriptions of the villages contain so many elements of self-defense.

We can generally assume, unless otherwise indicated, that Adair's accounts of tribal culture included in this article are snapshots from the middle part of the 18th century. While Adair also had experiences with and wrote about other southeastern tribes (and some descriptions may apply to them as well), he knew the Chickasaws best and admired them most. That is why many experienced observers believe that most of Adair's reporting in the book applies to the Chickasaw.

Tribal Settlements 1760s

Approached from any direction on all but the windiest or rainiest days, smoke blending from numerous fires would be the first detectible sign of the Chickasaw village just ahead. But, by the time the visitors saw the smoke, look-outs would have been reporting their position.

Many years before, the Chickasaw cleared forests for villages and farm fields using a method that Adair termed "expeditious," given their lack of tools. First, they cut through the bark, called "deadening" the trees. Before contact with Europeans, the Chickasaw had used stone axes, weighing between one and three pounds and consisting of a flinty stone lashed into place through the notched head of the axe by two or three strips of hickory; after prolonged contact with Europeans had been established, they used metal axes. After the trees died and dried out, Adair said the larger varieties were burned down; the smaller ones were used to feed the annual fire and construct portions of summer houses.

By Adair's time, the tribe had ten villages (according to a 1755 French document), making up the "present towns," mentioned by Adair. These were all confined to an area of about three square miles, according to artifact evidence discovered and analyzed by archaeologists and former artifact collectors/local amateur historians.* The long war of attrition had reduced Chickasaw population substantially.

A fellow English trader of Adair's, John Buckles, wrote that by 1754, there were only 340 able gunmen. If each gunman lived with four other people, the Chickasaw population in the homeland was 1,700. This estimate is less than half of the estimate made by Thomas Nairne in 1708. While 1,700 people living within three square miles may not seem crowded to today's urban dwellers, it was, relatively speaking, to the tribe. In their four former settlements, they had been considerably more dispersed along the ridge tops. Also the tribe in the 1740s and '50s no longer had the luxury of moving when it had used up the supply of natural resources, such as wood and deer.

As a frame of reference (though it may be an apples and oranges comparison), the population per square mile in 1755 was 566 while it is 145 in modern Lee County, Mississippi, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Though the Chickasaws all lived within the three square miles of territory called Big Town by the English, Adair wrote that each house had a small field close to it for the growing of beans, peas and corn. Surrounding these small farms were fences made of stakes tied together with small saplings to keep the horses out. The women evidently took this job very seriously. Inside one enclosure women were shouting bad names and threats, and waving tomahawks at two trespassing horses. Adair notes that the women were not bluffing; repeat offenders sometimes were dispatched by a blow with the tomahawk.

In outer fields, usually of melons and pumpkins, older women stood watch from high scaffolds. Theirs was double duty, guarding the crop from scavengers and the village from enemy incursions. They scared off crows by screeching at them, but in fulfilling their duties, some made the ultimate sacrifice when a stealthy warrior took dead aim.

Houses

In more detail that will be given here, Adair described two types of house, one for summer and one winter; both were white washed outside and inside with marine shells or chalky clay that are both abundant still in northeastern Mississippi. Adair implied that every family had both types. However, far more winter houses have been discovered than summer domiciles. Both have post hole patterns that characterize one or the other. According to Adair, the floors were about a yard lower than the surrounding earth, creating an earthen embankment for added protection. Houses in "the barrier towns" (the most vulnerable to attack) had loopholes near the top of their enveloping embankment for firing their guns at raiding parties in relative safety.

The summer house was rectangular with gables at each end. It was framed with regularly spaced posts supporting the walls and another post in the center to give added support to the roof. The walls were loosely constructed with bark or dried grass to allow ventilation. The houses were fortified against gale force winds by tying large poles to the perimeter of the roof.

The winter houses were round, from 22 to 25 feet in diameter, and had conical shaped roofs supported by four poles deeply implanted (up to four-feet deep) in the ground. They were reinforced with a mixture of clay and grass applied to a thickness of several inches to the walls and roof. Protruding from the spire was a pole often supporting a large carved eagle. There was only one small door, located at the end of a six or seven-foot curved passageway, built to buffer the cold wind. The passageway connected to the house would give the remaining post hole pattern an oval appearance, which both archaeologists and artifact collectors report finding. The properties on the inside held and reflected heat from the interior fire that was maintained at such intensity that people would soon shed their clothes upon entering.

Apparently, each family also had a corn *house*, fowl *house* and a more remote menstrual *hut*. I've emphasized the domiciles named by Adair to illustrate that corn and animals were contained in houses but the menstruating females lived in huts. Adair wrote that the women inside the huts were obliged to stay put throughout their menstrual period and during childbirth, even at the "risque of their lives." Other women would bring them food, but these women had to be careful not touch the woman in the hut. Blood flow was a sign of impurity, which was why the woman had to be isolated.

If the woman violated "the ancient law," she would be held responsible for any misfortune to any of the people that happened during this time. When the monthly obligation ended, she purified herself in "deep running water," before returning home.

Mountain House

Another structure, similar to the winter house, but probably much larger, was what Adair called the "mountain house," possibly because of its large size or because most towns constructed theirs on a prominence of some sort. Every village had one, but there is no indication from Adair that one was superior to the others. The mountain house was used by "beloved men" (elders) and head warriors to discuss tribal business. It was also used for (unidentified) celebrations or public ceremonies, probably during the winter months.

In another section of the book, Adair noted a prominent display inside several council houses he had visited. "[There were] Two white painted eagles carved out of poplar wood, with their wings stretched out, and raised five feet off the ground, standing at the corner, close to their red and white imperial seats." Near the eagles were chalky paintings of a man with buffalo horns and a panther. Also near the imperial seats were representations of the full moon and a half moon or breastplate, raised five or six feet high at the front of the broad seats and painted with a chalky clay or a mixture of white clay and black paint.

Adair could only speculate about their meanings. For example, he wrote that before a warrior could wear buffalo horns on his forehead, he had to participate in three successful battles. Interestingly, despite the conspicuous placement and arrangement of these symbols, Adair wrote that no one seemed to notice, much less venerate, them.

*See **Tribal Settlements,** page 27*

Pride in Homeownership Yard Contest June 2004 winners

Two homes from each legislative district were chosen to receive the Legislative Award. The Legislative Award entitles the homeowner to a certificate and a free month's rent.

The Lt. Governor's Award is then selected from the Legislative Award winners. The Lt. Governor's Award is a $50 gift certificate to Wal Mart. The Lt. Governor's Award winner for August 2004 is Linda Caldwell.

This contest runsthrough August and all current participants in the Homeowners Program are eligible to enter by calling (580)

Linda King - Pontotoc District

Terry Holman - Pontotoc District

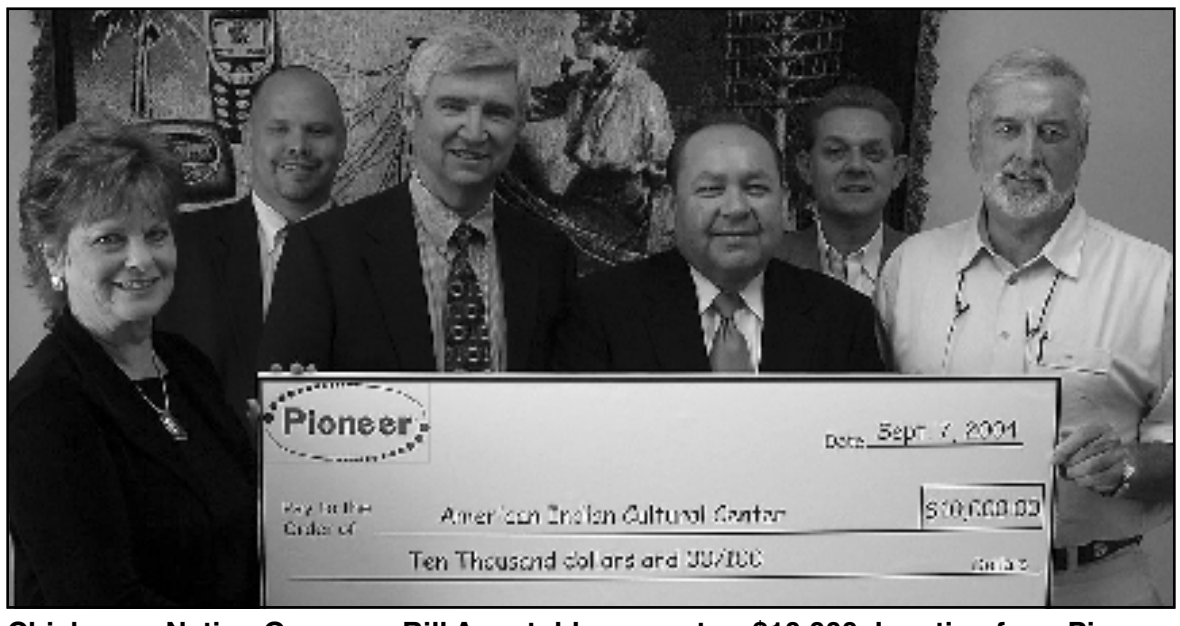
Tanya Anthony - Pickens District

Linda Caldwell - Pickens District

Debra King - Tishomingo District

Elizabeth Bell - Tishomingo District

OKC Cultural Center gaining momentum



Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby accepts a $10,000 donation from Pioneer Telephone cooperative for the American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City. Front row from left, Mary Petty, District 12 Trustee for Pioneer Telephone, Loyd Benson, President and Executive Officer for Pioneer, Governor Anoatubby, Gary Green, District 5 Trustee for Pioneer. Back row from left, Brian Campbell, CEO of Chickasaw Enterprises and Richard Ruhl, General Manager of Pioneer Telephone.

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative has contributed $10,000 to the American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City. Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby, chairman of the board of directors of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, accepted the donation.

"I am proud to accept this very generous donation on behalf of the cultural authority board," said Gov. Anoatubby. "It is very gratifying to work with partners like Pioneer in the creation of this center. Together we will build more than a facility devoted to preserving and celebrating Native American culture. We are also building a legacy of cooperation that will last for generations."

Funding for the multimillion

*See **Center,** page27*

Tribal Settlements, continued from page 25

Governing

Although Adair didn't report on a specific council house meeting, he either witnessed some or (as an excluded outsider) got an accounting from a good source. In articulating tribal government and the council meetings, Adair's information is remarkably similar to Thomas Nairne's, written a half century earlier in 1708. Adair wrote that the tribal government was devised for mutual security. The "law of nature" prohibited the appointment of a king or ruler and the coercion of anyone who was living in accord with the laws. Despite this, there were titles, the highest of which, Adair wrote, was "chieftain."

Despite the title, the only power that these chieftains had was to persuade or dissuade tribal members by using logic or propaganda effectively. No Indian words existed for "despotic power" or "oppression." Everyone was entitled to an opinion, and Adair heard them expressed "by fathers" in their homes. (It isn't clear whether Adair used masculine nouns to denote a male-only or male-dominated government or if he was conforming to a writing style.)

Leaders

Inside the mountain house, the leaders sat and spoke in order, according to merit. Although Adair doesn't place them in the mountain house in his narrative, great war chiefs Payamataha (Paya Mattaha) and Mingo Houma would have participated at some of these council sessions together, though they probably lived at different villages. Their arms and chests would have been heavily tatooed, something like pictographs, relating their exploits and successes in battle for the people. It would be interesting to know which chief had the distinction (based on merit) to speak first. Chief Pastabe, whom Adair identified as the nation's chief priest (archimagus) would also have been present, although during this period of continuing warfare, he would not have been speaking for peace, the traditional duty of civil chiefs. Still, before making strategic military decisions, the chiefs and headmen would have wanted to hear from the high priest, who was the tribe's paramount interpreter of the spirit world. However, his words may not have carried the same weight as his predecessors prior to so many tribal members dying from unrelieved warfare and European-borne infectious diseases

Could James Colbert have been present in a mountain house during deliberations during this period? Adair doesn't say, but he does identify "Capt." Colbert as having "lived among the Chikkasah from his childhood, and speaks their language even with more propriety than the English." With three Chickasaw wives and several children (some of whom would become tribal leaders), Colbert could have been a resident of one or more of the villages, as his wives might have been members of different clans. It isn't certain what influence he had on tribal affairs in the 1750s and 1760s because Adair doesn't tell us, even though they were both English traders, and as residents of the Big Town area, they must have known one another very well. At any rate, Colbert was an important tribal leader during and after the American Revolutionary War.

Leadership Protocol

The speaker in the mountain house always stood while the other headmen sat or reclined on "genteel couches" seven feet wide and more in length, placed around the perimeter of the room. They sat silently and listened respectfully. After everyone had had his say, they made a decision through "civil discourse." that Adair said the British would do well to emulate. The chieftains and headmen spoke in an orderly manner with no inflammatory rhetoric, though their opinions sometimes varied considerably. If a representative of another village or nation made a request, the assembled delegation considered the appeal very deliberately. No answer would be given for perhaps several "nights." By using "nights," it is possible that Adair was indicating that the council convened at night to render decisions.

Because every village was independent, and everyone's vote was equal, sometimes a village war leader might persuade his village to make war or peace without the consent of the head men of the nation. He did so at his peril, for if a Chickasaw attack were unsuccessful, the warriors might be punished as enemies by the nation for abusing their power. Their goal, everyone's goal, Adair wrote, was to do well for the tribe.

*****

*The persons credited with combining the evidence, suggesting the consolidation of Chickasaw settlements are Steve Cook, Julian Riley and Buddy Palmer. They are former Chickasaw artifact collectors and local historians who live in the Tupelo, MS area.

Center, continued from page 26

dollar center is a truly cooperative effort that includes funds from the federal government, Indian nations, the state of Oklahoma, the city of Oklahoma City and private businesses.

Richard Ruhl, general manager of Pioneer, said "We are pleased to assist with a project of such importance. This truly will be a showcase of history that not only Oklahomans can enjoy, but can be shared with others traveling through our great state as well."

Currently in Phase III of development, construction should begin later this year on the center to be located on 300 acres at the intersection of I-35 and I-40.

Tommy Thompson, Executive Director of the NACEA, indicated the authority would soon announce the date for formal groundbreaking on the site. He said the NACEA would be working closely with the Oklahoma Centennial Commission, the City of Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma City Redevelopment and Riverfront Authority, tribes and several other agencies to plan for this event.

Mr. Thompson reported that the consulting team of Johnson, Fain Design Group, Los Angeles, the Hornbeek Architectural Group of Edmond, Okla., and Applebaum Associates of New York are currently working on schematic and exhibit designs for the center.

"The proposed American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City will promote the rich Native American heritage that is an integral part of the Oklahoma's history," said Mr. Thompson. "The center will showcase tribes from across the nation, and is expected to be the premier tourist attraction in the state of Oklahoma."

Once complete, the center is expected to draw 350,000 new visitors each year.

Current plans for the facility include woodland, plains and wetlands areas featuring trees and plants native to the area as well as a lake extending the entire length of the site.

The Great Hall will be an airy steel and glass room based on the structural elegance of the traditional teepee and longhouse. This grand light-filled room is the core of the complex. A room for gatherings and ceremonies, cultural celebrations and renewal. It is also the hub from which visitors circulate to the galleries and other activities.

A three-part gallery experience begins with the "Who We Are" theater, a unique theater-in-the-round introduction to the perspective and reality of Oklahoma Indian people.

Next, visitors enter an upward ramping, switch-backed gallery, entitled paths of courage, recounting the resistance timelines of history. Voice chambers along the trail enable visitors to hear spoken first-person accounts of the experiences and of lesson learned.

In the third gallery, where soaring glass walls reconnect visitors to the spiraling promontory and the central fire a permanent exhibit presents the central themes of Native American life, traditional ways still strong today. Interactive tableaus in this gallery a classroom a court, an earthen circle, a porch, will serve as stages for live enactments of significant moments that have defined the current native American reality in Oklahoma.

A digital guide, issued to each visitor at entry, presents additional stories and exhibit information in the many tribal languages of Oklahoma and offers more detail through direct links to Internet connections sponsored by the cultural center.

In the Hall of Honor, touch-screen displays create a dynamic portrait gallery affirming the strengths and courage of individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Native American culture.

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

New tribal officers

Jason O'Neal, left, Chief of Police, Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department, administers the oath of office to newly hired officers Jay Carrol, center, and Phillip Wood.

Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound – Summer 2004

What did you do this summer? If you ask a Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound student, he or she will have plenty to share with you. These students spent five weeks of the summer on the campus of Murray State College in Tishomingo taking classes and living in the dorms under the supervision of peer counselors and dorm supervisors. Students took classes in math, science, foreign language, literature and composition taught by area high school teachers and college professors. Additional classes included computer lab, video editing, academic skills and lab research.

The ACT Plan Test and Test of Adult Basic Education were also given to those students who would be entering the ninth through twelve grades in the fall. The bridge/college students were offered a financial aid workshop prior to the summer to help them complete their FAFSA or free federal student aid package.

During the week, students enjoyed field trips to the movies, skating and bowling in Ada. A dance was also held every Thursday night at the Murray State College Ballroom featuring DJ Izzy. The rest of the week, students practiced for All Sports Day where they competed against other Upward Bound programs in the state. An awards banquet and dance was conducted on the final day, and students were recognized for their academic and athletic achievements.

After the summer residential session was over, students were treated to an adventurous and educational out-of-state trip. The freshman and sophomore students went to Arlington, Texas where they attended a Texas Rangers baseball game and the Hurricane Harbor water park. The junior students went to San Antonio, Texas to visit Sea World, Fiesta Texas/Six Flags, the Riverwalk and Schlitterbaun water park. The senior students went to South Padre Island, Texas, and their activities included the Schlitterbaun water park, deep sea fishing, para-sailing and a visit to the beach.

The bridge students, who took actual college courses during the summer, went to Pagosa Springs and Durango, Colorado. Their activities included a ride in a hot air balloon, and a stagecoach ride to Weber Canyon with an old-fashioned steak dinner and entertainment. They also visited Mesa Verde National Park to tour archaeological sites and cliff dwellings of the Ancient Pueblos.

Each trip consisted of elegant dining experiences at nice restaurants, and trips to local shopping districts to find unique souvenirs. Many students were able to experience locations and activities they have never had the opportunity to experience before. A fun time was had by all!

The Chickasaw Foundation Upward Bound program serves over 150 eligible high school students in 24 schools throughout the Chickasaw Nation. For additional information, please contact our office at (580) 371-9903.

Freshman/sophomores at a Texas Rangers baseball game.

Mesa Verde Tour

Seniors at Padre Island

Program 082 Awards

NMAI, continued from page 1

ture, heritage and achievements of all American Indians and pray this will mark a new beginning of better understanding and stronger relationships between people of all nations."

Oklahoma Fourth District Representative Tom Cole, a Chickasaw citizen, walked with the dance troupe in the procession and delivered a message from President Bush during the opening ceremonies.

"To be here is just a dream come true," he said after taking a moment to reflect on his own heritage, which includes his late mother, Helen Cole, who is in the Chickasaw Hall of Fame, his great-aunt Te Ata, one of the foremost Indian folklore artists of the twentieth century and his great-grandfather, who was treasurer of the Chickasaw Nation.

"The museum is simply spectacular. It's a long overdue tribute to Native American people. And you can see from the crowd here how emotional this is for many, many people. What a celebratory and reflective moment it is at the same time.

"I've met Chickasaws from all over the country here, from Chicago and California and Arizona and obviously a great contingent from Oklahoma," continued Rep. Cole. "All of them here are very proud and all of them very pleased with the progress the nation's made. So it's a very moving moment."

That sentiment was echoed by dance troupe member Tim Harjo.

"It's a great honor to represent my people, the Chickasaws at this event." said Mr. Harjo. "And to not only represent them, but to help keep the culture and tradition going. The love and the life of the Chickasaw people."

"It's a blessing to have this many native people all come together in one place."

That variety of cultures represented in the nation's capitol made a strong impression on Janessa Monetathchi of Tishomingo, who made the trip to the capitol with a group of Chickasaw students.

"It's an awesome experience," said Janessa. "It was an honor to see all these native nations together here. It's kind of symbolic that they're going toward the capitol. The nations are coming together and it's awesome that God blessed me to be picked to be here."

Contributed by Tony Choate, tribal media relations.

Variety of exhibits in unique building

Constructed after consultations with dozens of Native Americans, the four-story NMAI is reminiscent of a canyon with windswept, curving, natural stone walls.

Outside it opens east onto a courtyard bordered by a wetland-type area. On the southwest corner, a stone waterfall empties into a stream that runs along the south side of the museum.

Through the main entrance, guests enter the circular Potomac room capped by a dome 120 feet overhead.

Also on the ground floor are a cafe selling traditional native food and an art store specializing in fine native art as well as an information center, orientation room and large theater.

Permanent exhibitions include Our Peoples, Windows on Collections, and Our Lives, each of which focus on different aspects of native culture.

Other features include changing exhibitions and the Lelawi Theater.

Message from President Bush

Below is the text of a message from president Bush as delivered by Tom Cole.

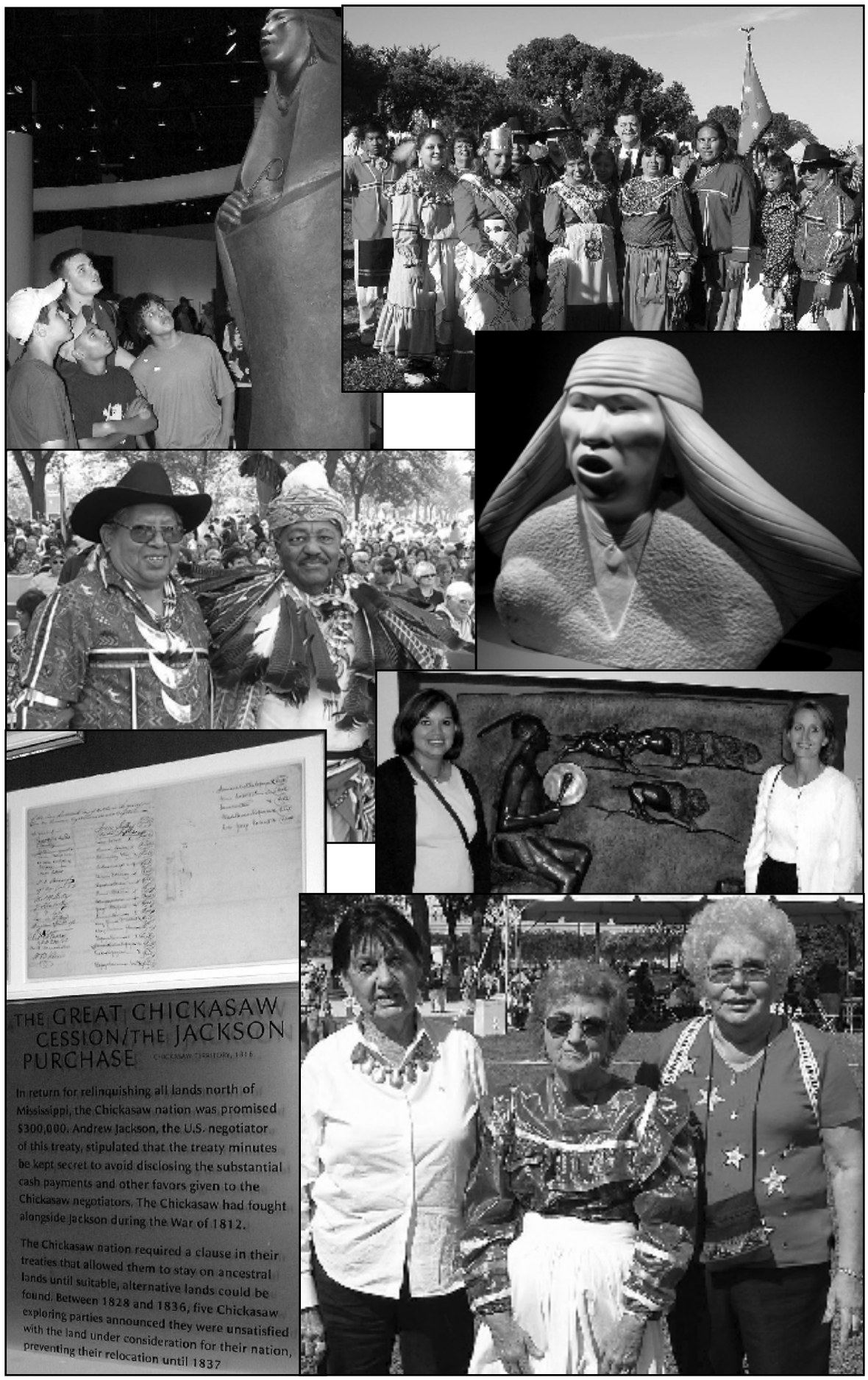
I send greetings to those celebrating the Grand Opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.

Today we pay special tribute to the courage and determination of Native Peoples of America. America's tribal communities continue to honor the legacy of their ancestors, and their contributions have helped shape the American culture and character.

As an addition to the National Mall, this museum will help educate people of all backgrounds about Native Peoples and honor their history, artistry, languages and traditions. The collection of American Indian materials is one of the finest and most comprehensive in the world, distinguished by thousands of masterworks with cultural, historical, aesthetic, and spiritual significance. The museum's design symbolizes the American Indians' respect for the many wonders of nature. Yet this museum is far more than a collection of exhibits and architecture. It is also a powerful reminder of the spirit, pride, and vitality of our Native Peoples.

Establishing this museum required skill, vision, and patience, and I commend all those who have given their time, talents, and dedication to making this museum a reality. Your efforts foster greater understanding and celebrate the diversity of American Indian tribes. Through this museum, people across our country and around the world will have the opportunity to learn about American Indians.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion.


THE GREAT CHICKASAW CESSION/THE JACKSON PURCHASE
In return for relinquishing all lands north of Mississippi, the Chickasaw nation was promised $300,000. Andrew Jackson, the U.S. negotiator of this treaty, stipulated that the treaty minutes be kept secret to avoid disclosing the substantial cash payments and other favors given to the Chickasaw negotiators. The Chickasaw had fought alongside Jackson during the War of 1812.
The Chickasaw nation required a clause in their treaties that allowed them to stay on ancestral lands until suitable, alternative lands could be found. Between 1828 and 1836, five Chickasaw exploring parties announced they were unsatisfied with the land under consideration for their nation, preventing their relocation until 1837

Developing healthy routine works

Chickasaw Nation launches new 'Cooking Shows'

Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services is excited to announce two new cooking shows for this fall, "Get Fresh for Fall" and "Cooking in the Fast Lane." These cooking shows will be conducted at three locations in Ada, one in Ardmore and one in Purcell. (Calendars will be printed each month.) The shows are action-packed with lots of terrific, healthy recipes using fruits and vegetables. People attending the show will be given free recipes and samples of the food prepared. The programs last for five months, and sessions are 50 minutes.

"Get Fresh for Fall" is a five-month program with a variety of shows to attend. In *October*, ways to use ingredients in your kitchen to make gifts for the upcoming holiday season will be featured with "Gifts from the Kitchen." *November* will include shows that will provide you with some special recipes in "Cooking for Thanksgiving." In *December* shows called "Guilt Free Cooking" will be featured. As the title implies, lower calorie recipes for the holidays will be introduced. *January* will be all about getting your vegetables for the day in a new way with "Veggies Full of Flavor." The entire month will be introducing marinated vegetable recipes. Finally, in *February*, the theme will be "Warm your Heart Vegetables" featuring roasted vegetables.

"Cooking in the Fast Lane" is a new five-month program with cooking shows that will run the same months as "Get Fresh-Fall." Starting in *October* "Crock Pot Wonders" will feature meals that can simmer all day and be ready when you come home. In *November* a meal of "Sassy & Savory Sandwiches" will be on the menu. Come *December* when the rush of the holidays begin, "Homemade Meals Made Simple" will provide your family with quick, nutritious food. In *January* "Really Good Food Fast" will be brought to your dinner table. No time for breakfast with your busy pace? *February* will bring you "Breakfast on the Run," meals that will satisfy and get you out the door fast.

"Cooking in the Fast Lane" in conjunction with the Chickasaw Nation Wellness Program will be bringing you some tips to help you get fit or stay fit. With all you do **"Cooking in the Fast Lane"** will also bring you quick exercise ideas for when you just don't have the time to work out.

Everyone is encouraged to attend, however, those individuals who receive benefits from commodities, food stamps, head start or WIC will be given extra incentives to attend.

The programs are taught by Jan Long, Community Nutrition Coordinator, and Nancie Rosson, demonstration specialist. Both of these ladies are exciting, energetic and knowledgeable about nutrition. The program assistants are Neva Harjochee and Christina Hurt. Both are super and add a lot to the shows.

Demonstration specialist Nancie Rosson, community nutrition coordinator Jan Long and food demonstration assistant Neva Harjochee prepare for a cooking class.

"Our shows are like Julia Child or Emeril," Long said. "We have lots of fun with terrific healthy recipes that will add spice to your life."

For more information, call (580) 272-5506. Please contact Nancie Rosson for "Get Fresh for Fall," and Jan Long for "Cooking in the Fast Lane."

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

Lots of benefits when baby enjoys breastfeeding

On July 22, the WIC Program hosted special grand rounds at Carl Albert Indian Hospital for healthcare professionals. Dr James Fisk, Department of Pediatrics, University of New Mexico Health Science Center was the guest speaker and delivered a presentation on the public health benefits of breastfeeding. Some of the advantages of breastfeeding include:

Advantages for baby - A decrease in the severity and incidence of diarrhea, ear infections, lower respiratory tract infections, bacterial meningitis, urinary tract infections and necrotizing enterocolitis.

Studies have shown that breastfed babies also have a lower incidence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, diabetes, obesity, Crohn's disease, colitis, lymphoma, leukemia, allergic diseases and other chronic digestive diseases.

Studies also show that breastfed children show an increase in cognitive development.

Advantages for mother - Breastfeeding women usually have a quicker post-partum recovery, delayed resumption of menstruation and child spacing improved. Ovarian and breast cancer risk is also decreased.

Monetary advantages - The cost of formula per infant per year averages $1,460 for name brand formulas. Nationally, the WIC program spends over $200 million annually for infant formula given to participants. The cost of supplemental food provided by WIC to a breastfeeding mother monthly is approximately $50. Due to the fact that breastfed babies are also healthier and have less incidence of illness there is a savings of approximately $200 in medical costs per infant per year.

Adverse effects of formula - Dr. Fisk stated that formula companies market that breastfeeding is "ideal" vs. "normal"; "ideal" being thought of as unattainable. This makes formula feeding "normal." If however, breastfeeding is normal, then formula feeding is less so. It is inferior.

Formula companies are constantly changing the composition of the formula usually followed by a name that makes it sound '"new and improved." This often comes about after a new study has revealed a product newly discovered that is already in breastmilk.

Breast milk cannot be duplicated; it is always changing to meet the baby's needs.

Adverse influences on breastfeeding - Medical, economic and social issues can create barriers to helping mothers be successful at breastfeeding. Some of these include:

- The need to work or the perception of the need to work
- Work ethic
- Maternal and post-partum leave
- Workplace barriers
- Early discharge from hospital after delivery
- Formula advertising and gift packs to new mothers

The United States Surgeon General's Healthy People 2010 goals included an initiation rate for breastfeeding of 75%. Health care facilities are encouraged to support the "Baby Friendly Hospital" initiatives and to follow those as closely as possibly to promote breastfeeding in all cultures. Those initiatives can be found at www.babyfriendlyusa.org.

All mothers and babies deserve the loving support of family, friends, and their community in order to provide the best nutrition possible for their babies. For more information about breastfeeding, call the Nutrition Services Department at (888) 436-7255.

Contributed by Becky Chandler, tribal media relations.

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"A Chickasaw Tribal Member"

Know your risk factors

Hold off breast cancer with prevention, early detection

LOS ANGELES - October is breast cancer awareness month. Breast cancer accounts for one out of every three cancer diagnoses in the United States, according to the American Cancer Society; it is the second leading cause of cancer death in women after lung cancer.

Although the incidence of breast cancer and breast cancer-related deaths in the United States is daunting, there is hope. In fact, more than 96 percent of women who are diagnosed with breast cancer at an early stage go on to survive more than five years.

I. Benjamin Paz, MD, director of the Breast Center at COH's Rita Cooper Finkel & J. William Finkel Women's Health Center and vice-chair of the Division of Surgery at City of Hope Cancer Center in Los Angeles, emphasizes that taking prevention measures reduces the risk of breast cancer, and screening and early detection improve treatment outcomes for those who are diagnosed with the disease.

"The exact cause of breast cancer is unknown but the risk of its development is associated with age, family history, hormonal replacement, race and a number of other risk factors," says Dr. Paz. "Some of these risk factors are not controllable, but others can be avoided by making good lifestyle choices."

The chance of getting breast cancer increases as a woman gets older. Some studies have shown that taking birth control pills slightly increases the risk of breast cancer and that breast feeding may decrease the chance of developing the disease. Additional risk factors include:

* personal or family history (maternal or paternal) of breast cancer
* hormone replacement therapy
* smoking, especially as a teenager or young adult
* a breast biopsy showing benign breast proliferation

Dr. Paz recommends that all women over the age of 40 visit their physician for a yearly screening mammogram and clinical breast examination (CBE). Women in their 20s and 30s should have a CBE preferably every 3 years. They should conduct monthly breast self-examinations starting in their 20s.

Women with a family history of breast or ovarian cancer or with benign breast changes that predispose cancer should be evaluated for other prevention strategies. For example, Tamoxifen can reduce the incidence of breast cancer in 50 percent ofin high- risk women.

Symptoms of breast cancer may include some of the following:

* a new lump or mass in the breast or underarm area
* skin irritation or dimpling
* nipple pain or the nipple turning inward
* redness or scaliness of the nipple or breast skin
* a nipple discharge other than milk

Prevention is the best way to reduce the risk of breast cancer. Both women and men should take proactive measures to live free of the disease. Dr. Paz suggests the following:

* eat a balanced diet, high in fruits and vegetables and low in fat
* watch your weight, and exercise daily
* limit alcohol consumption and avoid smoking
* know the risk factors and be aware of changes in your body
* see a physician for regular exams and conduct appropriate self- exams

For more information about breast cancer research and treatment at City of Hope Cancer Center, call 1-800-826-HOPE or visit www.cityofhope.org.

Tribal resource conservationist here to help with conservation work

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the conservation agency for the United States Department of Agriculture and works hand-in-hand with the American people to conserve natural resources on private and Tribal lands. NRCS provides the following services:

- Natural resource assessments.
- Conservation planning assistance
- Technical assistance for conservation practices
- Cost share programs for conservation work

You may contact the USDA Service Center in your area for assistance. They are listed in the white pages of your phone book under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture. You may also contact the NRCS Tribal Resource Conservationist to the Chickasaw Nation at (580) 332-3070 ext. 3. Information is also available on USDA's World Wide Web site: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov or you may contact the Oklahoma NRCS home page at http://www.ok.nrcs.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and martial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326 W., Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Native-owned banks displaying good overall growth rates

OKLAHOMA CITY - Native American banks continued to post strong asset growth rates and capitalization ratios along with continued improvement in net earnings. Recent financial figures released by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation indicate that Native American owned banks recorded an asset growth rate of nearly 12% for the one-year period ending June 30, 2004. This is fully 3% higher than the **9%** average asset growth rate for all U.S. commercial banks for the same period.

As of June 30, 2004, Native American banks controlled nearly $1.5 billion in total assets, up from $1.3 billion one year earlier.

In addition, Native American banks have stronger capitalization ratios than their U.S. commercial counterparts. Capitalization ratios at Native American banks averaged 9.89% versus **8.17%** for all U.S. banks, according to J.D. Colbert, president of the North American Native Bankers Association, a trade association of Native-owned banks.

"The strong asset growth rates and capitalization ratios represent a continuation of exceptional performance for Native American banks" stated Colbert. "The superior asset growth rates reflect market demand for the products and services of Native banks. In turn, the asset growth rates are built upon the strong capital position of Native banks".

Profits at banks owned by Native Americans also improved and are nearly equal to that for the average U.S. bank. As of June 30, 2004, the return on assets for Native banks amounted to 1.20% as compared to **1.38%** for all U.S. banks. As measured by return on equity, Native banks earned an average rate of return of 12.1% versus the 14.9% figure for all U.S. banks.

Eighteen of the 19 Native-owned banks were profitable as of June 30, 2004. Of these nineteen banks, nine are owned by tribes and 10 are owned by Native American individuals. Ten of the Native-owned banks are located in Oklahoma. The average asset size of the Native American bank is $79 million. The largest Native bank is Canyon National Bank based in Palm Springs, Calif., with total assets of $183 million.

Bank2, based in Oklahoma City, OK and 100% owned by the Chickasaw Nation, is representative of the overall asset growth and capitalization trends of Native banks. Bank2 posted a 60% increase in total assets for the one-year period ending June 30, 2004. At the same time, Bank2 had a capitalization ratio of 13.2%.

"We are very encouraged by our early success" stated Ross Hill, president and CEO of Bank2. "Having been open for business less than two and one-half years, our financial results have far exceeded our initial projections. I attribute that to our emphasis upon excellent customer service, competitively priced products and capitalizing on our unique market opportunities".

The North American Native Bankers Association is a not-for-profit association of Native-owned commercial banks with a state or national banking charter. The association was formed in 1998 for the purpose of increasing the number of Native-owned banks and strengthening the existing Native banks. More information about the North American Native Bankers Association can be found at www.nanba.org.

Volunteers chip in to complete Kullihoma structure repairs

Thanks to the volunteer help from some employees of the maintenance and Cultural Resources departments, Bobby Walker has been able to start the much needed repairs to the winter house, mountain house, corn crib and the summer house at Kullihoma.

These guys have learned the hardships their ancestors must have had when building their shelters. The first is finding the right size and kind of thrashing for the roof. Then comes the cutting and bundling of the thrashing. The last is the sewing of the thrashing on the roof. All of the ones involved in this project has had a rare chance to go back in time to learn ways of the past to bring into the Future.

Bobby would like to thank Eddie Postoak, Curtis Bond, Farron Culley and Eddie Easterling for the volunteers.

From left, Bobby Walker, Felix Shico, John Hamilton, Brian Futischa, Charles Shields, Jackie Davis. Tim Deatherage on top of the house. Not picturerd, Terry Stick, Gabe Frazier and Buster Smith.

From left, Charles Shields, Brian Futischa, John Hamilton and Jackie Davis.

Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing

For You.....

The Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing offers you a full range of home loan products in addition to the Chuka Chukmasi Home Loan Program.

Did you know that on virtually every kind of loan the seller can pay part of your closing cost? Has anyone taken the time to sit down with you and explain the process from start to finish or exactly what your closing costs actually are? Would you like personal, one on one attention to every detail?

Did you know that the Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing is your ONLY source for the Chuka Chukmasi Home Loan? HOWEVER, if you are Native American, and live in the Chickasaw Nation service area, we also have a loan product for you!

Chuka Chukmasi

For Chickasaws ANYWHERE IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES! Down payment and closing cost assistance is available. Homebuyer education is required!

HUD 184

Available to any Tribe living in the Chickasaw Nation service area. This is a Native American loan and allows part of the closing costs to be financed into the loan. Borrowers need 2-3% of the purchase price of their own funds. These may be gifted funds or even a grant from their own tribe. No second mortgages are allowed on this loan. Homebuyer education is required!

MyCommunityMortgage

This is community homebuyer loan. While there are income guidelines in certain areas, there are no income guidelines in underserved, low and moderate income or minority census tracts and central cities. Borrower investment can be as little as $500 and community seconds are allowable as a source of funds for closing costs. Homebuyer education is required.

VA Loans

If you are a Native American Veteran and have never used your VA eligibility to purchase a home, you may do so through the Chickasaw Nation Division of Housing. VA Loans offer the veteran 100% financing.

Elders' Day program focuses on preventing identity theft

Dozens of elders who gathered for Elders' Day in Sulphur August 20 enjoyed food, fellowship, fun and also learned some valuable information.

Dinah Worcester updated elders on activities of the museums, archives and libraries department. Mark Brewer shared some important information about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Police Officer Palmer S. Mosley shared some valuable information to help seniors avoid identity theft, the fastest growing crime in the United States.

Officer Mosley pointed out that the number of reported identity theft victims over the age of sixty more than tripled from 2000 to 2001. Numbers rose from 1,821 victims in 2000, to 5,802 victims the next year.

Prevent Identity Theft

Below are some tips on preventing identity theft from the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston

Steps to Prevent Identity Theft

Think about taking care of your identity on a regular basis just like you take care of your health. Some activities you do every day, like brushing your teeth and taking vitamins. Other actions should be taken once or twice a year, like getting dental check-ups and an annual physical.

In the home, keep personal information safe, especially if you have roommates or are having any work done in your home. Don't keep Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) near your checkbook, ATM card, or debit card. Anything with an account number on it can be used in identity theft.

Shred any papers with confidential information before you throw them out - even the junk mail. Anything with an account number can be used in identity theft. This includes pre-screened credit card offers, receipts, canceled checks, bank statements, expired charge cards, doctors' bills, and insurance documents.

Since many identity thefts are traced to having a purse or wallet stolen, **carry as few cards with identification and personal information as possible.** Don't take your social security number, and bring as few credit cards as you can. Think about putting different cards in different parts of your purse or knapsack.

You should be wary of any mail, telephone, or Internet request for information - it could be "pretexting." Unless you initiated the contact with a business, don't give out any confidential information - such as your credit card number, social security number, PIN, birth date, or even your mother's maiden name. Also be careful of unexpected e-mails that look as if they are from a legitimate company asking you to enter some information at a linked web site; sometimes phony web sites can look real. Make sure your family members also know not to give out any information to others.

Check your banking and credit statements soon after you receive them and make sure there is no unexplained activity. Keep track of when in the month each of your bills usually arrives. If a bill does not arrive on time, call the company to make sure no changes have been made to your account. Often, identity thieves will change the address of a bill so that it will take you longer to figure out the scam. If you're careful, you may notice the theft earlier.

Out of the Home - Shopping and Services

When you sign a credit card slip, avoid putting your address, telephone number, or driver's license number on it. Also, be sure to take your receipts with you to shred at home because "dumpster diving" is very common at large retail areas, such as malls. This will help to minimize how much personal information about you is floating around out there.

Be particularly wary of giving out your social security number. Few institutions - businesses granting you credit, employers filling out tax forms for you, or government agencies - have any reasonable cause to know your social security number. However, a business may refuse to serve you if you do not give them the information they request. It is up to you if you still want to do business with the establishment.

Get Your Credit Report

How to Read Your Credit Report

1. Check to make sure you are aware of all accounts listed, and balances are what you expect them to be.
2. Look for anything suspicious in the section that lists who has received a copy of your credit history. Some identity thieves "pretext" by posing as a landlord or employer.
3. Make sure no inquiries have been made about loans or leases you didn't apply for.
4. Check for addresses where you have never lived.
5. Check for typos in your social security number.
6. If there is any incorrect information in the records, contact the credit bureau, creditor, employer, or government agency immediately. Follow up with a letter describing what actions were taken. Your protections are usually stronger if you report the problem quickly and in writing.

Many people don't realize they are victims of identity theft until long after the initial crime occurred. Identity thieves often try to hide the crimes for as long as possible so that they can access more money. To stop the crimes as soon as possible, make sure you carefully check your credit reports regularly. Your credit reports are important tools for limiting the amount of damage a thief can cause.

Contact each of the three major credit reporting agencies to order a copy of your credit report at least once each year. Your credit report will generally contain information on where you work and live, the credit accounts that have been opened in your name, if you own a home, if there are any liens against your home, how you pay your bills, and whether you've been sued, arrested, or have filed for bankruptcy.

Consider canceling credit cards you haven't used in a long time. You can also consider adding a "fraud alert" to make it harder for thieves to open new accounts without your knowledge. With a fraud alert, the credit agency has to call you to confirm any request it receives to open a new account in your name. If you decide you want this service, just contact the credit reporting agencies.

Make it harder for thieves to use your accounts.

At Work

The newest trend in identity theft is to hit groups of people, and workplaces can be vulnerable. Find out if your company has a policy about protecting its employees from identity theft. Make sure your employer stores your personal information in a safe place. Also, find out which other employees have access to your personal information.

Companies and Agencies with Which You Do Business

Identity theft can occur through records maintained by your bank, credit card companies, the Department of Motor Vehicles, utilities, insurance companies, and phone companies. Try to have as little information as possible printed on any cards these groups may issue. If you want, ask these companies about their policies with regard to sharing your information. You can stop many components of information sharing.

When choosing a PIN, use one that is hard to guess. Avoid the last 4 digits of your social security number, your mother's maiden name, birth dates, names of pets, or even the name of your hometown baseball team. Try to mix numbers, letters and symbols.

Make it harder for thieves to use your accounts. Put passwords on credit card, bank, and phone accounts. Get credit cards with your picture on them. Call the companies that issue the accounts and find out what security options they offer.

Don't print your social security number or phone number on your checks. Don't have your checks delivered to your home - go and pick them up yourself at your bank.

Try not to use your social security number for an identifier:

* Check your drivers license to make sure you aren't using your social security number as identification - few states require this any more.
* If a school, employer, health insurer, or other institution needs to give you an identification number, often they simply use your social security number. Find out if they can use another number instead.
* The only places you must use your social security number are on government and financial forms, such as tax forms and most credit applications.

Your Mail

Reduce the circulation of your information through the mail. Stop receiving pre-screened credit offers by calling 1-888-5OPTOUT. You can also reduce direct mail marketing and telemarketing by contacting the Direct Marketing Association. Notify each of the three major credit bureaus that you do not want personal information about you shared for promotional purposes. (This will also reduce unsolicited mail.) Consider putting a lock on your mailbox.

Identity Theft Insurance

Home insurance policies can include "identity theft insurance" as an option. But know that if you are a victim, insured or not, you should be able to get out of paying all fraudulent bills.

What to Do If You're a Victim of Identity Theft

There are several steps you can and should take to protect yourself if you are a victim of identity theft.

Make Sure to Document Your Actions

Begin documenting the time and money you spend on straightening out identity theft. In some states, any person found guilty of financial identity theft will be ordered to pay restitution to the victim for any financial loss, including lost wages.

* Keep copies of correspondence and documents related to the theft.
* Write records of all telephone calls, including the date and time of your call and the name and title of the person who assisted you.
* Write letters to confirm all phone conversations. Include the date, the name of the person you spoke with, and what actions were taken.
* To be extra careful, send documents and letters Return Receipt Requested and keep the postal receipt with your copy.

Consider using the ID Theft Affidavit to avoid having to complete different forms. This

See **Elder's Day,** *page34*

Elders' Day, continued from page 33

form can assist you in disputing inaccurate information that appears on your credit report as a result of fraud. It's available on www.consumer.gov/idtheft. Keep copies of all affidavits that you send.

After you call the police, contact the credit bureaus.

Contact the Police

Immediately call the police to file a report with your local law enforcement. If your identity was stolen when you were away from home, you may need to contact the police in that jurisdiction, too. Opening a police case accomplishes two things: First, the police can start investigating the crime. Second, you will need information from the police report to help you straighten out your credit and accounts after the crime. When you talk to the police, make sure you get the police report number and information on how to reach the investigator. Give this information to all the companies you contact in getting your credit cleared up after the crime.

Stop the Damage

After you call the police, contact the credit bureaus. Next, contact any credit card companies and banks where your accounts may be at risk.

Credit Bureaus

Contact the fraud departments at each of the three credit bureaus.

Equifax: (800) 525-6285

Experian: (888) EXPERIAN (397-3742)

TransUnion: (800) 680-7289

* Get all three agencies to flag the accounts with a "fraud alert." Find out from each credit reporting agency how long the fraud alert will remain on your report, and how to extend that time, if needed. Ask that all creditors contact you at a phone number you provide to verify all future applications.

* Add a "victim's statement" to the report; include your name, state the problem, and provide a telephone number where you can be reached.

* Have each credit bureau send you a copy of your report. These reports will guide you in tracing where and when any fraud occurred to your accounts.

* In a few months, order new copies of your reports to verify your corrections and changes, and to make sure no new fraudulent activity has occurred. Unfortunately, identity thieves often strike the same accounts again and again. Because of this, it is very important to continue to monitor your credit reports very closely for a while after the initial crime. Even with a "fraud alert," thieves may still find ways to open new accounts. Ask the credit bureaus if they will supply you with free reports every few months.

Credit Card Companies

If a thief has gained access to a credit card, contact the security department of that credit card company.

* Close any affected accounts so that they're registered as "closed at customer request."

* Get new account numbers, and protect the accounts with passwords.

* Follow up with a letter documenting the date, the name of the person who helped you, and what actions were taken.

Just because one card has been compromised, you may not want to close all of your credit accounts, and you may want to hold on to some cards. You may want to get counseling about this decision from a victim assistance group. (Some useful nonprofit groups are listed below.)

Banks

Inform your bank if your wallet or purse was stolen or lost. Tell them what bank account information, including account numbers, ATM cards, or checks it contained.

* Cancel checking and savings accounts and open new ones.

* Stop payments on outstanding checks.

* Get a new ATM card, account number, and PIN or password.

Contact the Government Authorities

It is also good to contact other authorities that specialize in identity theft. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) runs the ID Theft Hotline and the ID Theft Data Clearinghouse.

FTC Identity Theft Hot Line: (877) IDTHEFT (438-4338)

If your social security number has been compromised, report it immediately to the Social Security Administration.

Social Security Fraud Hot Line: (800) 269-0271

If mail service was used in the fraud, contact the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. This agency is helpful if any fraudulent utility bills or apartment leases show

Letter to Editor:

In response to Teresa Santagata's letter to the editor published in the September issue of the Chickasaw Times, I too encourage all eligible voters to exercise their right to vote on November 2, 2004. Your vote counts. You can make a difference. If your objective centers on what your government can do for you, then vote for the self-serving party espoused by Ms. Santagata.

On her party's behalf, Ms. Santagata presented disturbing statistics on the plight of Native Americans. Are those statistics true? I assure you that her portrayal of President George W. Bush as uncaring is a bald-faced lie. As a resident of the state of Texas under the governorship of George W. Bush, I saw and heard him plead with Texas voters on behalf of native peoples of the Americas. If Ms. Santagata's statistics are true, why not point the finger at the sovereign governments of Native American tribes and demand accountability? Why not invite those tribe's leaders to Oklahoma and introduce them to the governing body of the great Chickasaw Nation? Show those leaders first hand what an effective, forward thinking governing body can accomplish at the local level in the interest of its people. You can make a difference. Your vote counts. You elected the dedicated, successful governing body of the great Chickasaw Nation.

I offer only one statistical numeration. 9/11. There are far greater issues at stake in this presidential election than what the government can do for you. Our present commander in chief, George W. Bush, had the strength of character and courage to defy the world and wage war against terrorists who threaten our peace, our security, our freedom, and our land. Remember the lessons of our forefathers. As Native Americans, we possess a greater knowledge and understanding of losses incurred through the tyranny of foreign terrorists.

God bless America, God bless President George W. Bush, and God bless our brave warriors who fight selflessly for our people and our land.

Carol Burklin

Great-great granddaughter of Thomas C. Fletcher, Original Chickasaw enrollee Granddaughter of Claudie Fletcher, Original Chickasaw enrollee

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• Member of the Chickasaw Nation

Students enjoy cultural study

Shannon Myers, JOM coordinator and Lisa Watson high school English teacher both of the Davis School System, Davis, Okla., were able to sponsor an enrichment program for middle school aged students with funding from Governor Anoatubby and the Chickasaw Nation.

The purpose of the program was to enrich cultural awareness through several facets including cultural art, storytelling, healthy lifestyles and exercise lessons, community service activities, field trips for wildlife study and fellowship among peers.

Students created hot air balloons at the library which was sponsored by Sonic; enjoyed a picnic and took a nature walk through Chickasaw National Recreation Area; and delivered flower pots that they decorated and planted flowers in to the Burford Nursing Home as a way of helping the community. Students had a really good time and said it felt good to give to someone else and make new friends. The last day of the program consisted of a trip to Arbuckle Wilderness.

The students participating were, Samantha Crowley, Dakota Kirk, Shelby Kirk, Dani McClellan, Dillon Buckaloo and Kelsey Lee.

Decorating flower pots for Burford Nursing Home.

Enjoying something cool to drink.

Exercising for a healthy lifestyle.

Gates Scholars deadline Oct. 7

Time is running out for the annual survey of Gates Millennium Scholars and applicants. Chickasaw students who applied for these scholarships have only until October 7 to complete the on-line survey.

Several Chickasaw Nation students have not yet responded to the survey. Dr. Joe and Dr. Carol Conner of Paradox Consulting are working with the National Opinion Research Center to raise awareness of the importance of completing the survey.

Participation is voluntary and all personal information will be handled with the utmost confidentiality by NORC. The on-line survey must be completed no late than October 7, 2004.

Chickasaw Students who are currently receiving, have received, or applied for and did not receive this funding are urged to log on the web site: https://survey.norc.org/gates04/ and complete the survey. When prompted, enter your unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) and password. If you don't remember your PIN or password call toll free 1-866-521-9903. Applicants who did not receive a Gates scholarship will be paid $25 for completing the survey.

Don't miss this opportunity to let the Gates Foundation know what your experiences have been so that other deserving Chickasaw students may benefit in the future.

Contact: Dr. Joe L. Conner or Dr. Carol N. Conner, Paradox Consulting L.L.C., (918) 642.3162.

Letter to Editor:

Ref: Opening of the NMAI

Dear Gov. Anoatubby;

Being one of the elders picked to travel to Washington DC the 18th. through the 24th was an awesome experience. Even though, my family and I had lived there 20 years ago with the military, this trip meant so very much to me as I am so very proud of the small amount of Chickasaw blood that I have and just being a part of this "once in a lifetime" experience was fantastic.

The procession of the tribes was so beautiful, just couldn't see them all. With approximately 40,000, how could I? I did wave each time the helicopters flew over.

The new and last museum to be built on the National Mall (National Museum of The American Indian) is so perfectly wonderful. Yes, a long time in coming about, but well worth it. Our midnight tour of the NMAI was very nice and special.

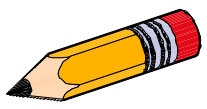
Our drivers Jimmy and Jim took excellent care in driving and seeing to our needs. Our lodgings every night couldn't have been better. We all appreciated have the opportunity to get to know our doctor and nurse on board (Tina & Rolanda). Both are certainly a plus for our Nation. Many thanks go out to Karen Cook, Barbara Wallace and the site managers: Betty, Linda and Kristina. They all were so helpful and kind to make our journey so very enjoyable.

Another thanks goes to you and the Nation for the late August trip to Milwaukee, WI to attend the NICOA Conference as a delegate.

Very Sincerely Yours,
Marcia (Marci) Ann Jones

All Chickasaw Nation voters please complete the form below if you have moved or your address is a new 911 address. Mail to the address below.

Change of Address Form



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Last *First*

Date of Birth: _____/_____/_____ **Maiden Name:** _____

Old Address

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Street *City, State & Zip*

New Address

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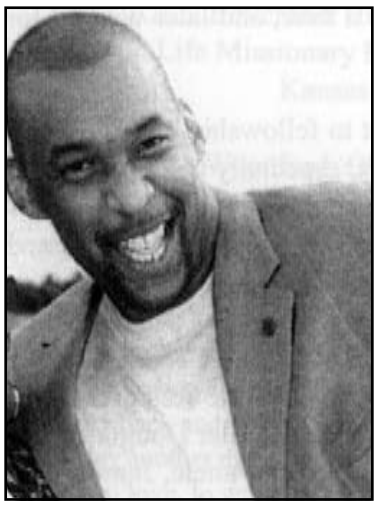
Street *City, State & Zip*

Sign: _____ **Date:** _____

Chickasaw Election Commission
P.O. Box 695 • Ada, OK 74821

Jeffrey E. Jones



Jeffrey E. Jones died August 1, 2004. Services were August 7, 2004 at First Baptist Church, Ardmore, Okla., with Pastor Wayne A. Lawson officiating. Interment was at Hickory Cemetery, Woodford, Okla.

He was born December 23, 1963 in Ardmore, Okla.

He attended school at Ardmore and graduated from Ardmore High School in 1982. He was baptized in the First Baptist Church during his teen years. He was employed at Uniroyal for a time and later worked for Bussells Car Wash.

He had a passion for antique cars, especially his restored and refurbished 1969 Buick. His other hobbies included fishing, and weight-lifting. He was a loyal O.U. fan. He will be missed and fond memories of him will always be with us.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Will and Liller Douglas; a brother, Gerri Grant; aunt, Delores Butler; and an uncle, Louis Douglas.

He is survived by his mother, Benester Douglass, Ardmore, Okla.; two sons, Jeffrey Jarrod Jones, Norman, Okla., and Kevin McGee, Ardmore; sisters, Cynthia Harmon, Ardmore, Wanda Mitchell, Kansas City, Mo., Mariea Shelton, Inglewood, Calif.; brothers, Henry Curry, Oklahoma City, Robert Shelton, Kansas City, Mo.; his special friend Shan Fitzgerald; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Ray William Morrissey

Ray William Morrissey, 41, died August 6, 2004. He was born March 3, 1963 to Lula Mae Morrissey. He was the grandson of original enrolle Wm F. Bourland, Jr.

He was a 1981 graduate of Midwest City High School. He loved coaching the MWC Tigers 9-10 year old baseball team. He loved Elvis and John Wayne.

He is preceded in death by his father Robert Alton Morrissey; his grandparents, Vivian and Bill Bourland and Estelle and Joe Kelley.

He is survived by his mother, Lula Mae Morrissey; siblings, Bert, Gail, Richard, Lynn and Sid; aunt and uncles, Kitty and Dwayne Stephens of Oklahoma City, Mary and Frank Bourland of Texas, Ada and Bud O'Donnell and Dick Morrissey of Mass.

He will be missed greatly by his family, friends and his cat Honey Bear.

Services were August 10, 2004 at Country Estates Baptist Church, Midwest City.

Kathryn Jane Holland King

Kathryn Jane Holland King, 88, from the Bayberry Inn, died July 12, 2004. She resided in Sanford, N. C., and had previously lived in Whispering Pines, N.C.

She was born Oct. 18, 1915 at Achille, Okla.

Her early childhood years were spent in Fort Worth, Texas until she graduated from North Side High School. She worked for Montgomery Ward and later for Northwestern National Life Insurance Company.

She married William Lawrence King on May 19, 1940. They had no children.

She loved golf and enjoyed being in a birthday club at Sanford since 1978.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Melissa Frances Lemon an original enrollee; Marion Inge Holland; and a brother, James Robert Holland.

She is survived by her double first cousin, Barbara Holland McDermott, of Sanford; Barbara's children and grandchildren, son James Richard McDermott and wife Shelby of Whispering Pines, and their sons Timothy Richard and Jaime Michael, son, William Michael McDermott and wife Catherine of Pinehurst, N. C., their children, Lauren Elizabeth and Michael Alexander, son Kyle Martin McDermott and wife Irene of Clayton, N.C., and their children, Kylie Michelle and Hasten Donnell; daughter, Mary Barbara McDermott Staunton and husband Rev. James F. Staunton of Rockwell, N.C., and their daughters, Holland Mariah and Maya Christine; cousins, David and Roger Garrett of Cypress, Texas (sons of Anna Lou Lemon Garrett who died in 1998), Jim Lou Barnett Ewing of Dallas, Jean Holland Russell of Bedford Texas, Lora Lee Holland Garrett of Corpus Christi, Texas, Kerye Ashmore of Sherman, Texas and David Leigh Ashmore of Tampa, Fla.

Due to Mrs. King's decision to donate her body to the University of North Carolina Medical School services will be conducted at a later date at the cemetery next to her husband in Sanford.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the American Cancer Society, Lee County Unit, 11 South Boylan Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27603.

Lou Smith Palmer

Services for Lou Smith Palmer, 47, Talihina, Okla., formerly of the Allen, Okla., area were 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Johnson Chapel United Methodist Church, the Rev. Joseph Mullins officiated. Burial followed at Steedman Cemetery. A wake service was held Monday at 7 p.m. at Criswell Funeral Home.

Mrs. Palmer died September 2, 2004 near Talihina. She was born January 21, 1957 at Talihina to Kuton and Leona Shields Smith. She attended school at Gerty and Allen.

She married Bobby Joe Palmer September 19, 1984. She was a cook at the Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina. She had been affiliated with the Johnson Chapel United Methodist Church and later was affiliated with Faith Pentecostal Holiness church in Talihina.

Survivors include her husband, Bobby Palmer, Talihina; four sons, Robert Palmer, Talihina, Jason Smith, Norman, Okla., Jeremiah Palmer, California and Adrian Palmer, Ada, Okla.; one daughter, Courtney Palmer, Talihina; three sisters, Madelyn Smith, Ada, Verna Mason, Ada and Sharon Smith, Ada; seven brothers, Jimmy Perry, San Jose, Calif., Stanley Smith, Ada, Kenneth Smith, Noble, Okla., Darl Smith, Battle Creek, Mich., Floyd Smith, Ada, David Smith, Ada and Lester Smith, Ada; six grandchildren, Bryce Joseph Palmer, Braden Lee Palmer, Whitney LeeAnn Palmer, Annamae Kiersten Palmer, Tyrah Jamae Smith and Titus Alan Smith.

Bearers were nephews, Chad Smith, Buster Smith, Wayne Smith, Malcolm Smith, Victor Smith and Craig Parnacher. Honorary bearers are her sons.

Nancy (Pickens) Garland

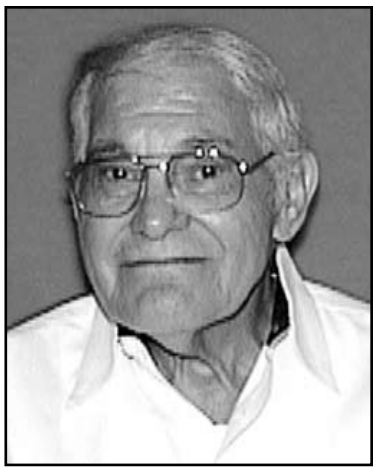
Nancy (Hodge) Garland, 47, of Muskogee, Okla., died August 27, 2004 surrounded by her family. Services were August 31, 2004 at the Westside Church of Christ, Muskogee. Burial was at Memorial Park Cemetery, Muskogee.

She was born December 20, 1956 to Jack and Bette (Pickens) Hodge at Muskogee. She is the granddaughter of original enrollee Winifred Pickens, who is 101 years old.

She graduated from Muskogee High School in 1975. She married James Garland on March 12, 1976 in Muskogee.

She is survived by her husband, James Garland of the home; two sons, James Garland, Jr., and his wife Jerlyn of Fort Gibson, Okla., and Rodney Garland of the home; two grandsons, Clay and Brenton Garland of Fort Gibson; parents, Jack and Bette Hodge of Muskogee; grandmother, Winifred Pickens; a brother, Richard Hodge and wife Pam of Skiatook, Okla.; a nephew, Zachary Hodge of St. Paul, Minn.; two nieces, Sarah Hodge of St. Paul, and Mallory Hodge of Skiatook.

Bill J. Scott



Services for Bill J. Scott, 83, Ada, are 2 p.m. Monday at Criswell Funeral Home Chapel, the Revs. Fred Huffman, Ed Rutherford and Robert Brantley officiating. Interment follows at Memorial Park Cemetery. Oklahoma City Disabled American Veterans Chapter 85 Honor Guard will perform military honors at the cemetery.

Mr. Scott died Thursday, Sept. 16, 2004, at a local hospital. He was born May 7, 1921, in Ada to A.M. Scott and Ella Perry Scott.

He attended school at Irving and Ada Junior High. He was employed with Brockway Glass Plant in Ada, retiring in July 1986 with 41 years employment. He was a member of the Church of God of Prophecy.

He married Doris Blankenship Dec. 14, 1946, in Ada.

Mr. Scott served in the U. S. Army in the 45th Infantry during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Doris Scott, of the home; a daughter, Doretta Sellers and her husband Jerry, Ada; two grandsons, Scott Sellers and Jeramy Sellers; two sisters, Velma Massey, Vancouver, Washington and Glenna Faust, Ada; three brothers, Stanley Walker, Ada; Bob Walker, Ada; and Glen Walker, Ada; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents, A.M. Scott and Ella Perry Scott, and foster parents Marion "Red" and Edra Walker, a brother, Leo Scott, and a sister, Goldie Pritchard.

Bearers are Bryan Smith, Dusty Henderson, Judd Henderson, Marty Jackson, Steve Timmons and Kendell McKibben. Honorary bearers are James Abbott, Luther Green and Glen Walker.